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# COSTA RICA-PANAMA ARBITRATION

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## DOCUMENTS

ANNEXED TO THE

## ARGUMENT OF COSTA RICA

BEFORE THE

ARBITRATOR

HON. EDWARD DOUGLASS WHITE  
CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES

UNDER THE

PROVISIONS OF THE CONVENTION BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA  
AND THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA, CONCLUDED MARCH 17, 1910.

VOLUME III.

1913.

THE COMMONWEALTH CO., PRINTERS,  
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MAY 17 1921

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**Title of Deputy Governor and Captain-General of the  
Valley of Matina, Suerre, Reventazón and Tierra Adentro  
in Favour of Don Antonio López del Corral.**

CARTAGO, May 29, 1707.<sup>1</sup>

Year of 1707.

Testimony of the Title of Deputy Governor and Captain-General, made in the person of Don Antonio del Corral, released from *media annata* (half yearly revenue).

Don Lorenzo Antonio de Granda y Balvín, Governor and Captain-General of this province for His Majesty, etc.

Whereas, the position is vacant of Deputy Governor and Captain-General of the Valley of *Matina*, *Suerre* and *Reventazón* on the North Coast of this province, its ports and jurisdiction, and it is necessary to provide therefor, with a person of valor, character, capable and experienced also in political as well as military matters, and having also the other qualities which the King our Master (may God guard him) directs me in my Royal Title of Governor and Captain-General of this province shall be required of persons who are appointed to such positions;

And considering, that said qualities and others worthy of the highest commendation are found in the Sergeant Major, Don Antonio Lopez del Corral, who has served His Majesty more than eighteen years, both in the garrison at Orán and in the Plaza of Catalonia, the garrison of *Portobelo* and in this said province, as will more fully appear in the papers which are submitted; and using the power that I have, in the name of His Majesty, I select and appoint him as such in my stead, Deputy Governor and Captain-General of the Valley of *Matina*, *Suerre*, River of *Reventazón* and District of *Tierra Adentro*, and of the other ports of the North Coast of this province, as far as the *Bays of Almirante (las Vayas del Almirante)*; in order that as such Deputy Governor and Captain-General he may be present in said Valley and govern its inhabitants and the dwellers therein

<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Historical Section. Cartago. Bundle LXXI. No. 24.

in everything political and christian, and as regards military matters he shall have under his charge and jurisdiction the guards who generally attend on those coasts, watch over and protect them, it being desirable that they do what is necessary to absolutely keep and execute the orders that I have given to them in writing, with the others that may be desirable for the Royal service, and to command and discipline the said inhabitants in military exercises so that they may be prepared for sudden attacks, which may happen at any time from the enemy who may attempt an invasion at any of those ports, making the defense necessary at the ports that he deems best, fortifying them, from whence advice may be sent to me of the designs and progress of said enemies, so that I may send help to him that may be necessary, going personally to the defense of this province;

And he shall make a general list of all the people who are found in said Valley, informing each of them that he may see that it is necessary, warning them to keep and comply with the regulations which are published by my order, not only in this city but in the Valley, punishing all who shall incur the penalties that are imposed, collecting the fines that are levied, of which remittance shall be made to me at once, in order that they may be distributed according to their application; taking care that none of the said inhabitants, nor any other person whatever shall trade or contract with any class of foreigners, nor under any pretext whatever, over which he will keep what and give me prompt advice if any of them or any part of them are guilty thereof; and as regards the rest, touching the military government, he shall punish and can punish those who are disobedient *ad modum belli* according to the laws and military regulations, and those who shall not execute his directions and commands;

And as regards political matters and causes which may come before him, he shall hear, ascertain and determine them as they shall be submitted, both civil and criminal, beginning them, investigating them and deciding them according to law, and the parties having been heard in all the different proceedings, he shall grant the appeals which shall be interposed before me for their determination;

And lastly, he shall rule the said Valley according and in the manner that it has been done and should be done, by the other

Deputy Governors and Captains-General who have been in those ports and jurisdictions, with all the rest relating to and concerning the said position, for all of which I give to him all the power, right and authority which I have and ought to have;

And I order and command all the inhabitants and other persons of whatever state or quality they may be, who may be in the said Valley of *Matina*, its ports and watches, that they shall hold in respect, submit to and obey the said Sergeant Major Don Antonio López del Corral as such in my place, as Deputy of the said Valley of *Matina*, keeping, complying with and executing all his writs, orders and mandates, which he may give in writing or verbally, as if they were my own, under penalty on the contrary of being punished with great severity, and all the rest that by reason of the said position is due, relating or belonging to him, as to all the other Deputy Governors and Captains-General of all the cities and towns and places under the dominion of His Majesty, without failing in anything;

And the grant is made to him of being relieved from the duty of *media annata* which by reason of this employment he should pay to His Majesty, in consideration of his many and good services, and that he must generally be in said Valley with arms in his hands, it being infested with pirate enemies, of which a record will be made by the Deputy of the Royal Official Judges of this province, which is dated in the city of *Cartago*, on the twenty-ninth day of the month of May, 1707 years.

Signed with my name, sealed with the seal of my arms, and countersigned by the undersigned Secretary of War, and on this stamped paper of the second class, there being none of the first at present, which I also certify.—Don Lorenzo Antonio de Granda y Balvín.—Secretary of War.—The Deputy of the Official Judges of the Royal Treasury of this province has taken the record of this title. *Cartago* and Royal Treasury, May 29, 1707 years.—Blas González Coronel.

This agrees and is a transcript of the original title, of which mention has been made, just and true, corrected and compared with that to which it refers, and that it may appear in the Royal Office under my charge I gave the present in the city of *Cartago*, on the twenty-ninth day of May, 1707 years; and before me

and witnesses, for lack of a clerk, who were Captain Don Joseph de Bibas and Ensign Manuel de Castro, residents and present.

Blas Gonzalez Coronel. Joseph de Bribas. Manuel de Castro.

**Doc. 480 Certificate of Documents Relating to Expenses Made by the Royal Treasury of Cartago for the Garrison at the Port of Matina.**

1804-1821.

RAFAEL VILLEGAS ARANGO, Director General of the National Archives, CERTIFIES, that in the book of accounts of the Royal Treasury kept by the Royal officials of *Cartago*, in the Province of *Costa Rica*, in the year 1804, there is found at folios 3, 4 and 5, respectively, the documents which verbatim read:

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"Advised by your official letter, No. 651, of February 14, last, that you do not find any one at a *real* per league who is willing to hire out mules to transport from *Matina* to that city the arms that are unused, on account of the bad road and risk the beasts may be maltreated: you may increase the freight up to the sum mentioned in said letter, always saving as much as possible for the Royal Finances.

God keep you many years. *Guatemala*, April 7, 1804.

ANTONIO GONZÁLEZ.

To the Governor or *Costa Rica*."

---

"By the enclosed copy of official letter by the President, dated 7th inst., you will see that H. W. approves the increase in freight proposed for the mules to transport from *Matina* here the arms and ammunition which H. M. has there; and it appearing to me the ten *pesos* is enough per load (or less if may be); I advise you for your information and government and that you may look for beasts to transport them, advising me of the price at which it is adjusted.

God keep you many years. *Cartago*, May 1, 1804.

THOMÁS DE ACOSTA."

---

"Having in view the news communicated to me by the Commander of *Matina*, dated 7th inst., which I communicated to you, we have determined to despatch a special, carrying it to

the Governor Intendant of *Lcón*, and from there to the Most Illustrious Señor President, will you arrange for the special to leave, since we have deemed this desirable for the Royal service.

God keep you many years. *Cartago*, May 12, 1804.

THOMÁS DE ACOSTA.

Señor Don Manuel Escalante, Post Master."

---

At folios 8, 9, 11, 13 and 14 of proofs of expenses of the Royal Treasury, corresponding to the same year 1804, are found the following settlements:

"No. 13, Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, July 9, 1804.

Item, 792 silver pesos, which on this date I have delivered to the Chief Adjutant, Don Juan Manuel de Cañas, as paymaster of this Battalion for the pay to the Detachment of *Matina* in the first six months of this year, 72 soldiers at 9 pesos, six second sergeants at 14 and six Corporals id. at 10 pesos, as appears by the Review Rolls; and order from the Governor that all be marked No. 13, and he signs with me as correct.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JUAN MANUEL DE CAÑAS."

---

"No. 17. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, Dec. 31, 1804.

Item, 792 pesos delivered to Sergeant Major Don Manuel de Cañas as paymaster, which has become due in the last six months of this year, in the detachment of *Matina*, 72 soldiers getting nine pesos, six Second Sergeants at 14, and six Corporals id. at 10, as better will be shown by the Review Rolls adjusted as which are prepared and marked No. 17, and he signed with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA, Escalante.

JUAN MANUEL DE CAÑAS."

---

"No. 27. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Feb. 1, 1804.

Item, 92 pesos silver, that I have delivered this date to Adjutant Major Dn. Juan Manuel de Cañas, as paymaster of this Battalion, credit of baggage made to 16 men proceeding to the De-

tachment of *Matina*, at 5 pesos each, and 3 to the watch of *Caldera* at 4; as per receipt in justification marked No. 27, and signed by the recipient.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JUAN MANUEL DE CAÑAS."

---

"No. 40. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. June 25, 1804.

On this date the item, 92 pesos, delivered to the Adj. Major Dn. Juan Manuel de Cañas, as paymaster of the Battalion of this Province, baggage of one chief, and two soldiers for the exchange of the watch of *Caldera* at 4 pesos each, and sixteen for those that proceed to the Detachment of *Matina* at 5 pesos to relieve those that finish in this month; as appears by the receipts in the case that are shown of No. 40.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JUAN MANUEL DE CAÑAS."

---

"No. 41. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. July 9, 1804.

Items: 92 pesos delivered to the Adj. Major Don Juan Manuel de Cañas, paymaster of this Battalion, for baggage of 16 men that came from *Matina* from the Detachment at the rate of 5 pesos, and 3 that return from the watch of *Caldera* at 4 pesos, having finished, and to come and be restored to their troop; as appears by the receipt marked with No. 41, and he signed with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JUAN MANUEL DE CAÑAS."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. July 9, 1804.

Items: 92 pesos that by a natural oversight was omitted in the month of February, baggage satisfied Adj. Major Don Juan Manuel de Cañas, as paymaster of this Battalion, belonging to the troop of *Matina*, composed of 16 men, and 3 more of the



*Vigia de la Caldera* who go back at the beginning of this month, having completed their detachment; as appears by account No. 42, to which I refer.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JUAN MANUEL DE CAÑAS."

---

"No. 45. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Dec. 31, 1804.

Items: 92 pesos silver, delivered to Don Juan Manuel de Cañas. Baggage for two soldiers and a Corporal, who proceed to *Vigia de la Caldera* at 4 pesos each, and 16 more for the Detachment of *Matina* at 5, all of which persons proceed to relieve those detached; as appears by the receipts which accompany and signed with me for acceptance.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JUAN MANUEL DE CAÑAS."

---

### Year of 1805.

In the book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, corresponding to the year 1805, at folios 16, 17, 18, 20 and 21, respectively, are found the settlements which read verbatim:

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. July 1, 1805.

Item given: 792 pesos for amount of first six months of this year settled pay of six second sergeants at 14 pesos, six corporals at 10, and 72 soldiers at 9, detached in the Valley of *Matina*, as shown by the Review rolls, and adjusted as prepared for Sergt. Maj. for his information, marked with No. 13 and he signed with me as settled."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Dec. 31, 1805.

Item given: 792 pesos, which I have this day delivered to Dn. José Ruperto Prieto as official paymaster, salary accrued in the last six months of this year, six Second Sergeants at 14 pesos,

six corporals id at 10, and seventy-two soldiers at 9, which are found of the two in the Valley of *Matina*, North Sea, as appears by the adjustment shown by No. 15, review rolls annexed and he signed with me."

---

"General Expenses: Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, January, 1805.

Item given: 92 pesos silver, which I the Official of the Royal Treasury have delivered to Sergt. Maj. Don Juan Manuel de Cañas, baggage of 16 men that proceed to *Matina* at 1 peso and three more to *Caldera* at 4, to relieve the Detachment that have been in the past year; as appears by the receipt in the case and or. for his information.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. July 31, 1805.

Item given: 92 pesos plata, on this date delivered to Sergt. Maj. Don Juan Manuel de Cañas, baggage for sixteen men returning from the Detachment of *Matina* at 5 pesos, and three more of *Caldera* at 4, making total as per margin, and to certify it he signs with me.

GARCÍA."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, Aug. 1, 1805.

Item given: 5 pesos, delivered to Sergt. Maj., baggage of Juan Chavarria, left to fill place of Antonio Orosco, retired by illness from the Detachment of *Matina*, as appears by my signature.

GARCÍA."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Aug. 1, 1805.

Item given: 92 pesos, delivered on June 28 to Sergt. Maj. Don Juan Manuel de Cañas for baggage of the troops, which was presented to me for the Detachments of *Matina* and *Caldera*, to which sixteen proceed, at 5, it being 40 leagues, and to *Caldera* three at 4 pesos, for 32 leagues, and for certificate he signed with me."

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, Dec. 31, 1805.

Item given: 92 pesos, satisfied by the official paymaster, Baggage for sixteen men, detachment of *Matina*, until the end of this (month) at 5 pesos, and three of *Caldera* at 4, for which certifies my signature."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. 1805.

Eighty-eight pesos, satisfied for his credit to Manuel Venegas at the rate of 8 pesos each month as Master of launches and canoes of His Majesty which are used in the Valley of *Matina* and for interpreter of the *Mosquito* Nation, as per order of the superior council, in which it is directed, as per copy in evidence thereof, as appears by No. 26, he signed with me."

---

### Year of 1806.

In the book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, corresponding to the year 1806, at folios 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, respectively, there are found the settlements which verbatim read:

---

"No. 16. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, Dec. 31, 1806.

Item given: 792 pesos taken by the paymaster for pay of troops detached in the Valley of *Matina* in the last six months of this year, as certified by my signature, and also the adjustment according to the revenue rolls, made up No. 16.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JOSÉ RUPERTO PRIETO."

---

"No. 20. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. January 1, 1806.

Item given: 92 pesos, delivered to Don José Ruperto Prieto, official paymaster in the Battalion of this Province, baggage for sixteen men who proceed detached to the Valley of *Matina* at 5

pesos each, for forty leagues, and 12 pesos for 4, also marched to the *Vigía de la Caldera*, to relieve those that come back from those places, and to certify it he signs with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JOSÉ RUPERTO PRIETO."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. January 22, 1806.

Item given: 5 pesos that this day were delivered to the paymaster, Baggage of Cayetano Ramírez, who marches to *Matina* to take the place of Calixto Sáenz, soldier detached in that Valley, who died in said month; and to certify it he signs with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JOSÉ RUPERTO PRIETO."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Feb. 23, 1806.

Item given: 5 pesos delivered to the paymaster, baggage of the soldier that marches for *Matina*, Calixto Guzmán, to replace Antonio Solano who died, and he signed with me.

GARCÍA.  
PRIETO."

---

"No. 22. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. April 5, 1806.

Item given: 5 pesos, baggage given to paymaster for the Soldier Vicente Baraona, who marches to the Valley of *Matina* to replace Anselmo Sanabria, who left sick; and to certify he signs it.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JOSÉ RUPERTO PRIETO."

---

"No. 23. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, May 25, 1806.

Item given: 160 pesos, taken by the paymaster, baggage of sixteen men, who proceed to relieve the detachment of *Matina* and like sum for those that return, at rate of 5 pesos, each, which

amount was taken before the order of prohibition was received, sent by the Most Illustrious Señor President, and not entered by mistake, and that it appears he signs with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JOSÉ RUPERTO PRIETO."

---

"No. 24. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, Oct. 10, 1806.

Item given: 7 pesos amount for purchase of a hatchet and an augur by order of the Governor of this Province for the canoes of H. M. of the Valley of *Matina*, and delivered by hand of said Governor to the Master of the launches, and I sign it, appearing by order No. 24.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Dec. 31, 1806.

Item given. 7 pesos 4 reales amount of baggage of return of troop from *Matina*, at end of this same month, and as evidence he signs it with me, the paymaster.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JOSÉ RUPERTO PRIETO."

---

"No. 37. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Dec. 31, 1806.

Item given: 96 pesos which during whole of present year has accrued as salary at rate of 8 pesos per month to Manuel Benegas, as interpreter of *Boca de Matina* and Master of Boats of H. M. in that Valley, as shown by Receipt No. 37; and as evidence I sign it.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE."

---

### Year of 1807.

In the Book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, belonging to the year 1807, at folios 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16, respectively, are found the settlements which verbatim read:

"No. 17. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. May 1, 1807.

Item given: 510 pesos, to which amounted the first four months of the Detachment of *Matina*, for one Sergeant, one corporal and twelve soldiers, gaining the first 14, the second 10 and the third 9; with notice that pay of the veteran sergeant and corporal is not put in the settlement as charge their credit with those of their rank; and that it may be in evidence he signs it with me, referring to the adjustment No. of the margin and he signs with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Aug. 31, 1807.

Item given: 510 pesos taken by the paymaster for payment of one Sec. Sergt. volunteer at 14 pesos, one corporal id at 10, and eleven soldiers in ten months and twelve in the last two of the second four months, May, June, July and August, that they have been detached in the Valley of *Matina*, North Sea, as shown in the review rolls and adjustment with No. on margin, they prove this part, as he signs with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JUAN DENGÓ."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Dec. 31, 1807.

Item given: 528 pesos expended in the third period, of the Detachment of *Matina*, in the months of September, October, Nov. and Dec. of this year, for one 2nd Sergt. volunteer at 14 pesos, one corporal id. at 10, and twelve soldiers at 9, all of which pay was taken by the official paymaster who signs with me. Number of the margin. \* \* \*

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JUAN DENGÓ."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, July 1, 1807.

Item given. Fifteen pesos taken by the paymaster for baggage of sixteen men who have been detached in the Valley of *Matina*

from the 1st of January to the end of June, at the rate of *ms.us.* for each three individuals, forty leagues double, going and coming, and as evidence he signs it,

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JUAN DENGÓ.

---

"On the same date, I gave the item: seven pesos, 4 rs. of the same troop, and number of men that were detached, the last six months of the year past, and without data by natural oversight and that it may be evidenced I sign it.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JUAN DENGÓ."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, Dec. 20, 1807.

I give the item: 96 pesos, which have been satisfied to the Master of Boats and Canoes and interpreter of the Valley of *Matina*, Manuel Benegas at the rate of 8 pesos each month, as evidenced by his receipt, with the No. on the margin proving this this part.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
MANUEL BENEGAS."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Dec. 20, 1807.

I give the item: 15 pesos. Baggage of sixteen men, who have been detached in the Valley of *Matina* from first of June to end of Dec., at rate of half real per league,, for which three persons, forty double leagues, in going and returning; and as evidence I sign it.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JUAN DENGÓ."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. June 2, 1807.

I give the item: 10 pesos spent in making two axes and two machetes, and twenty of steel for the Detachment of *Matina*, counting the making of them at 5 pesos each of the machetes

and the axes at 4 pesos, all at the order of the Governor of the Province and they have been paid to Maestro Onofre Carvajal, as shown by voucher No. of the margin.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE."

---

YEAR OF 1808.

In the book of the Royal Treasury, belonging to the year 1808, kept by the Royal office of *Cartago*, Province of *Costa Rica*, at folios, 19, 20, over 22, 24, 25, over and 27, respectively, are found the settlements that verbatim read:

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, May 1, 1808.

I give the item: 528 pesos, in the first period of four months, taken by the paymaster, for payment of a Sec. Sergeant volunteer at 14 pesos, one Sec. Corporal id at 10, and twelve soldiers at 9 pesos each month, detached in the Valley of *Matina* in the months of January, Feb., March and April, as better shown in the adjustment prepared with marginal number and he signed with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JUAN DENGÓ."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. August 31, 1808.

I give the item: 528 pesos taken by the official paymaster, for payment of the second period of four months, months of May, June, July and August, of the Detachment of *Matina*, for one 2nd Sergeant volunteer at 14 pesos, one corporal id at 10, and twelve soldiers at 9 pesos each month, as appears by the review rolls and adjustment prepared with marginal No. and he signed with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE

JUAN DENGÓ."



"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, Dec. 31, 1808.

I give the item: 528 pesos taken by the official paymaster in the last third, or four months period of Sept., October, November and December of this year, for payment of the Detachment of *Matina*, of one 2nd Sergeant volunteer at 14 pesos, one corporal id at 10, and twelve soldiers at 9 pesos, as better shown by the review rolls and adjustment which is annexed as proof with the marginal number, and evidence of which he signs with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JUAN DENGÓ."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. July 16, 1808.

I give the item: 15 pesos delivered to the official paymaster. Baggage of sixteen men, one Sergt. and Corp. going and returning of the Detachment of *Matina*, the first six months of this year, at the rate of six persons for baggage in forty double leagues; and as evidence I sign it.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, Dec. 31, 1808.

I give the item: 96 pesos given during the whole year to the Master of Boats and interpreter of the *Mosquito* Nation, Manuel Benegas, at the rate of 8 pesos per month; and as evidence I sign it.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Dec. 31, 1808.

I give the item: 21 pesos baggage of sixteen men, returning from the Detachment of *Matina*, being included in this many returning sick, and those that went to replace them, as better shown in the paper of the Corporal and which explains this part.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE."

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Aug. 31, 1808.

I give the item: 9 pesos expended by order of the Governor and Commander General in making forty-eight keys, to buy steel a real an ounce, one pound, and mend two broken axes, make a machete for service in the canoes of H. M. of the Valley of *Matina*, as shown by order of the Corporal, and receipt afterwards of the Master Blacksmith, and shown by marginal number for this part, which I sign.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE."

### Year of 1809.

In the book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, corresponding to the year 1809, are found the entries that verbatim read:

"No. 15, Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. May 1.

I give the data: 528 pesos which were expended in the first four months period of the months of January, February, March and April, for one second Sergt. volunteer, one Corporal id at 10 pesos and twelve soldiers at 9, who were detached in the Valley of *Matina*, North Sea, as shown in the review rolls, and adjustment made and proving this part with marginal No.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JUAN DENGÓ."

"No. 18. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Sept. 1.

I give the data: 528 pesos expended in the aforesaid four months period in pay and payment of one 1st Sergt. volunteer, without pay in this place being a veteran and to be adjusted when made up, one Sergt. 2nd, at 14 pesos, one 1st Corporal, veteran without salary in this region; one id second at 10 pesos, and twelve soldiers at 9 pesos each, who were detached in the Valley of *Matina*, North Sea, in this four month period; which sum the official paymaster received as appears by the review rolls and adjustment of the matter, with No. 19.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JUAN DENGÓ."

"No. 22. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Dec. 31.

I give the data: 528 pesos, which were expended in the third four-month period in the payment of one 1st Serg. volunteer, without credit for salary in this place and being a veteran, \* \* \* his salary included in the former part; one id second at 14 pesos, one 1st Corporal, veteran, without salary, for the reason stated, one id second at 10 pesos, and twelve soldiers at 9, who have been detached in the Valley of *Matina*, North Sea, and they passed review as appears by the rolls and adjustment prepared No. 23 on the margin, and he signed with me the official paymaster.

M. GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JUAN DENGÓ."

---

"No. 30. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. August 30.

I give the data: 15 pesos expended on the baggage of sixteen men, going and coming, who were detached in the Valley of *Matina* in the first six months of this year, which the official paymaster received who signs with me.

M. G. E."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. October 30.

I give the data: that there was delivered for baggage of sixteen men detached in the Valley of *Matina*, going and returning in the last semesters, and that it may be evidenced he signs it with me.

M. G. E.  
J. D."

---

"No. 32. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Dec. 31.

I give the data. That there was given in his favor during the whole of the current year to the master of Boats and interpreter of the *Mosquito* Nation, Manuel Benegas, at the rate of 8 pesos per month, as appears by receipt, No. 33, proving this item, which signs

M. G. E.  
MANUEL F. BENEGAS."

### Year of 1810.

In the book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, belonging to the year 1810, are found the entries which literally read:

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"No. 24. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Jan. 6, 1810.

I give the data: 4 pesos which were expended in the purchase of material for a canoe for the River *Rebentazón*, for the passage of the troop from the Valley of *Matina*, as appears by the order in the matter, and receipt of the recipient, with marginal No. proving this item, which I sign.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE."

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"No. 38. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Dec. 30, 1810.

I give the data: 96 pesos which have been given to the Master of Boats and interpreter of the Valley of *Matina*, Manuel Francisco Banegas, for annual salary, due to him by superior order and accrued at this date, and for his guaranty I give the Document No. of the margin, he signing with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

MANUEL FRANCISCO BENEAS."

---

"No. 41. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Dec. 31, of 10.

I give the data: fifteen pesos, given to the official paymaster in June for baggage of sixteen men, marching to the relief of the troop detached in the Valley of *Matina*, at the rate of a half real per league, which finishes to the end of the year, and which is evidenced by his signing with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JOSÉ RUPERTO PRIETO."

---

"Settlement by the Subordinate Treasury of *Cartago* with the persons of the said Battalion that has been detached in the Valley of *Matina*, from May 1 to end of August, of this year, with reference to the review rolls, as follows, to wit:

## REVIEW OF MAY.

1 1st Sergeant, veteran, settled as such.....	
1 2nd id volunteer, at 14.....	
1 Corporal 1st veteran, settled as such.....	
1 Corporal volunteer, at 10.....	
12 Soldiers, at 9 pesos, 108.....	132.

## REVIEW OF JUNE.

1 1st Sergeant, veteran, settled as such.....	
1 2nd id volunteer, at 14.....	
1 Corporal 1st, veteran, settled as such.....	
1 id 2nd volunteer at 10.....	
12 Soldiers at 9 pesos, 108.....	132.

## REVIEW OF JULY.

1 1st Sergt. veteran, settled as such.....	
1 2nd Sergt. volunteer, at 14.....	
1 1st Corporal, veteran, settled as such.....	
1 2nd Corporal, volunteer, at 10.....	
12 Soldiers at 9 pesos, 108.....	132.

## REVIEW OF AUGUST.

1 1st Sergt. veteran, settled as such.....	
1 2nd Sergt. volunteer at.....	14.
1 1st Corporal, settled as such.....	
1 2nd Corporal, volunteer.....	10.
12 soldiers, at 9 pesos.....	108
	— 132.

Amount . . . . . 528.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JOSÉ RUPERTO PRIETO."

"Settlement by this Subordinate Treasury of *Cartago* with the persons of the said Battalion that has been detached in the

Valley of *Matina* from Sept. 1 to the end of Dec. of this year, with reference to the review rolls, in the form following:

#### REVIEW OF SEPT.

1 1st Sergt. veteran, settled as such.....	
1 id volunteer at 14.....	
1 1st Corporal, veteran, settled as such.....	
1 2nd Corporal, volunteer, at 10.....	
12 soldiers at 9 pesos, 108.....	132.

#### REVIEW OF OCT.

1 1st Sergt. veteran, settled as such.....	
1 id volunteer at 14.....	
1 1st Corporal, veteran, settled as such.....	
1 2nd Corporal, volunteer, at 10.....	
12 soldiers at 9 pesos, 108.....	132.

#### REVIEW OF NOV.

1 1st Sergt. veteran, settled as such.....	
1 id. volunteer 2nd at 14.....	
1 1st Corporal, vet. settled as such.....	
1 2nd Corporal, volunteer, at 10.....	
12 soldiers, at 9 pesos, 108.....	132.

#### REVIEW OF DEC.

1 1st Sergt. veteran, settled as such.....	
1 id volunteer, 2nd, at 14.....	
1 1st Corporal, veteran, settled as such.....	
1 2nd Corporal, volunteer, at 10.....	
12 soldiers, at 9 pesos, 108.....	132.

Amount . . . . .528.

Voucher No. 24.

You will deliver to the Master of Boats, Manuel Banegas, one axe, and you will direct an adze to be made to build a boat

for the River *Rebentazón*, which has none; so that the troop cannot pass that march to relieve the detachment in the Valley of *Matina*; advising me of having done so.

May God keep you many years. Cartago, Jan. 5, 1810.

TOMÁS DE ACOSTA.

To the Deputy of the Royal Officials.

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Voucher No. 40.

*Cartago*, Dec. 31, 1810.

Received of the Official of the Royal Treasury 96 pesos, belonging to my annual salary, as Master of Boats and Interpreter of the Port of the Valley of *Matina*, designated to me by superior order; and that it may be evidenced I give the present as a letter of receipt, dated as above.

MANUEL BANEAS."

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### Year of 1811.

In the book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, corresponding to the year 1811, there are found the entries which state verbatim:

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No. 6. On the date aforesaid (April 30, 1811),

I give the data: 528 pesos for amount of salaries of one sec. Sergt. volunteer, at 14 pesos, one Sec. Corporal volunteer, at 10, and 12 soldiers at 9 pesos, in the first trimestre that they have been detached in the Valley of *Matina* according to the review rolls and settlement prepared with No. of the margin, voucher for this item. The official paymaster signs with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JOSÉ RUPERTO PRIETO"

---

"No. 9. On the day and date previous (Sept. 1, 1811)—

I give the data: 408 pesos, which also has taken for pay and payment of the troop of the guard of *Matina*, which were composed in the first two months of the second trimestre of one 1st Sergt. veteran, and one Corporal idem without salary; one

Sec. Corporal, volunteer, at 10 pesos, and twelve soldiers, at 9 pesos, and in the last two months of eight soldiers at 9 pesos, as appears by the settlement which was made up and the review rolls which justify this item. The paymaster signs with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JOSÉ RUPERTO PRIETO."

---

"No. 12. On the same date.

I give the data: 288 pesos which were given to the official paymaster for payment of the only eight men who were left in the Detachment of *Matina*, for though the settlement and rolls show a Sergeant 1st, veteran, and a like Corporal, these were not settled here, and so the previous item gives total of third quatrimestre; all proved with the review rolls and settlement made up, signing with me the paymaster.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JOSÉ RUPERTO PRIETO."

---

"No. 20. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. July 1st of 1811.

I give the data: fifteen pesos baggage delivered to the official paymaster for sixteen men that have been detached in *Matina*, from first, at the rate of half real per league, to six persons, at 42 leagues going and returning; and that it may appear he signs it with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JOSÉ RUPERTO PRIETO."

---

"No. 26. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Oct. 15, 1811.

I have prepared data: of 76 pesos, which were delivered to the minor children and widow of the late Manuel Benegas, interpreter and Master of Boats of His Majesty of the Valley of *Matina*, for nine months and a half, which he served in that employment, at the rate of eight pesos per month; as its evidence this voucher, No. on the margin.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE."

---

"No. 40. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. November 12, 1811.

I give in data: 78 pesos which were expended by order of the Governor and Commander General, in payment for transport of



articles seized by His Majesty in the Valley of *Matina*, belonging to Don Juan Francisco Valenzuela and Don Miguel Ramírez, and justifying this item the voucher with marginal number.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE."

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### Year of 1812.

In the year 1812, in the book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, are found the entries which verbatim read:

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"No. 36. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, April 30, 1812.

I give in data: 72 pesos, amount of the Detachment of *Matina*, not accounted for in the month of January, of eight men at 9 pesos, from the extract of the roll, and settled as prepared, signing with me the official paymaster.

MANUEL GARCÍA."

---

"No. 37. On the same date:

I give the data: 453 pesos, which in the trimestre of February to April, in which the Detachment of *Matina* has been served by the colored troops, it has amounted, made up of one 2nd Sergt. at 14 pesos, two Corporals at 10 pesos, thirteen soldiers at 9 pesos; with the note that they leave half of their salary as a gift to help in the war and the amount of this gift is 219 *pesos*, 6 *reales* and 3 *cuartillos*, deducted that corresponding to invalids, of which I have prepared a charge monthly in the book of Gifts, and appears by the review rolls and settlement made with it, No. of the margin 14, and 2, signing with me he that appears.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JUAN ECHAVARRÍA."

---

"No. 38. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. August 31, 1812.

I give the data: 696 pesos, amount of the second period of four months of the colored troops, which covers the Detachment of *Matina*, and is composed of two Sec. Sergts. at 14

pesos, two Corporals id. at 10, and fourteen soldiers at 9 pesos, which have passed review from May 1st to this date, leaving as a gift, deducted that corresponding to invalids, the amount of 337 *pesos*, 6 *reales*, 4 *maravedises*, as appears by the rolls cited, and settled as prepared with marginal number, Nos. 15 and 3. The recipient signs with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JUAN ECHAVARRÍA."

---

"No. 43. On the same date; Dec. 31, 1812.

I give the data: 696 pesos, the amount of the third period of four months of the colored troops, which serve the Detachment of *Matina*, in the months from Sept. to end of Dec., and is made up of two Second Sergeants at 14 pesos, two Corporals id at 10, and 14 soldiers at 9 pesos, as appears by the review rolls and settlement made with marginal number, leaving as a Gift to aid the Mother Country in sustaining the war and while it continues the half of the credit, deducted first that corresponding to invalids, the amount of 337 *pesos*, 6 *reals*, 4 *maravedises* and he signs with me, the recipient.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
LEONARDO SABAleta."

---

"No. 32. (On date of July 31, 1812).

I give the data: 15 pesos, which have been given for baggage, going and returning, to the persons detached of *Matina*, carried out the last of June, at the rate of half *real* per league to each six individuals, and at forty leagues double; and that it may be evidenced he signs it with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JUAN ECHEVARRÍA."

---

"No. 34. Under date (Dec. 31, 1812).

I give the data: 15 pesos, baggage going and returning, of individuals detached in the Valley of *Matina*, to the end of December, in the last six months of this year, at the rate of a

half real per league, forty double, which were appraised to the eighteen soldiers of which it was composed.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
LEONARDO SABAleta."

---

### Year of 1813.

In the book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, corresponding to the year 1813, there are found the entries that verbatim read:

"No. 67. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, May 6, 1813.

I give the data: 788 pesos, amount credited to the first period of four months, of the Detachment of *Matina*, which includes the months of January, February, March and April, of two Sec. Serpts. at 14 pesos, two corporals id at 11, and 14 soldiers at 10 pesos 4 rs., that have been detached, as appears by the review lists, and settled as prepared with marginal No. signing with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE."

---

"No. 70. On the 1st of September, 1813.

I give the data: 788 pesos, expended by the coloured militamen, in the second period of four months, made up of May, June, July and August, eighteen men, with two Serpts., Corporals id. and fourteen soldiers, getting, the first 14 pesos, the second 11 and the third 10 pesos, 4 rs., all as appears from the review rolls, and settled as prepared with the marginal number, signing with me the official who acts as paymaster of the company.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
JUAN DENGÓ."

---

"No. 78. On the same date (December 31, 1813).

I give the data: 788 pesos, amount of the credit in the credit in the third period of four months, of the Detachment of *Matina*, of two Sec. Sergeants, at 14 pesos, two Corporals Sec. at 11, and fourteen soldiers at 10 pesos and 4 rs., as appears by the review rolls, and settlement prepared with marginal No.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE."

## Year of 1814.

In the book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, corresponding to the year 1814 (respectively), are found the entries that literally state:

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. April 31,

I give the data: 788 pesos, amount of the credit of the first period of four months, of the Detachment in the Valley of *Matina*, which is made up of two Sergeants, at 14 pesos, two corporals id at 11, and fourteen soldiers at 10 pesos and 4 rs., each month, in January, February, March and April, as appears by the settlement prepared and extracts of reviews, which with the marginal No. vouch for this item, which he signs with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

LEONARDO SABAleta."

---

"On the same date (August 31, 1814).

I give the data: 788 pesos, given as credit in the second period of four months to the coloured militiamen detached in *Matina*, which is made up of two Second Sergeants, at 14 pesos, two id at 11, and fourteen soldiers at 10 pesos and 4 rs., as appears from the review lists, and settlement prepared, signing with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

LEONARDO SABAleta."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. Dec. 31, 1814.

I give the data: 788 pesos which were expended in the third period of four months by the coloured militiamen, detached in the Valley of *Matina*, which includes the months of September, October, November and December, with two Second Sergeants at 14 pesos, two Corporals of the same class at 11, and fourteen soldiers at 10 pesos and 4 reales, as appears by the settlements made and extracts of review with official signature of paymaster and marginal No. as voucher for this item.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

LEONARDO SABAleta."

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. January 4th.

I give the data: 30 pesos by a natural oversight not put down in the year last past of the baggage of the troop of *Matina*, of the two detachments, the amount of which was received by the official who signs.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
LEONARDO SABALETÁ."

---

"On the 30th of Dec., 1814.

I give the data: 30 pesos baggage, given to the fourteen men who were detached in the Valley of *Matina*, 15 that first went and returned to this city, and 15 to those who returned in like period, as appears by receipt of the paymaster, which he signs with me.

MANUEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.  
LEONARDO SABALETÁ."

---

### Year of 1815.

In the book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, corresponding to the year 1815 (respectively), are found the entries, which literally read:

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"On the same date (March 29, 1815).

I give the data: 90 pesos, 6 rs., credit account of their pay to the soldiers detached in the Valley of *Matina*, in the first trimestre of the year, and that it may be evidenced he signs it with me.

M. G. E.  
L. SABALETÁ."

---

"On the 1st of May, 1815,

I give the data: 697 pesos, 2rs. (per credit dated in the 2nd part of the Royal Book which was closed at the end of March 90 pesos 6 rs.), amount of the salary of two Sec. Sergts. volun-

teers, at 14 pesos, two Corporals, id at 11, and 14 soldiers at 10½ pesos, detached in the Valley of *Matina*, in the first period of four months, from January to the end of April, as appears by the review lists and settlements prepared with marginal number, signing with me an official of the same body of which he is paymaster.

M. G. E.

LEONARDO SABALETÁ."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. September 6, 1815.

Item: 788 pesos, given as credit on the second period of four months, from May to August, of the Detachment of *Matina*, two Sergeants 2nd, two Corporals id and fourteen soldiers, gaining, the first 14 pesos, the second 11, and the third 10½ pesos, as appears by the review rolls and settlement prepared with No. of margin. The recipient signs with me.

M. G. E.

LEONARDO SABALETÁ."

---

"On December 31.

I give the data: 788 pesos, given to the official of the company of coloured militiamen in the third period of four months for the salary of two 2nd Sergeants at 14 pesos, two Corporals id at 11, and fourteen soldiers at 10 pesos, as appears by the settlement No. of the margin.

M. G. E.

LEONARDO SABALETÁ."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, July 12, 1815.

I give the data: 18 pesos that were given to eighteen persons of the Detachment of *Matina*, for going and returning of baggage, that the individual received who acts as paymaster, signing with me.

M. G. E.

LEONARDO SABALETÁ."

### Year of 1816.

In the book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, corresponding to the year 1816, there are found the entries that literally read:

---

"No. 17. Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. May 1st, 1816..

I give the data: 788 pesos given to the official of the company of coloured militiamen in the first four-months period, made up of January, February, March and April, of the present year, that they have been detached in the Valley of *Matina* and are two Sergts. at 14 pesos, two Corporals id at 11, and fourteen soldiers at 10 pesos, as appears from the review rolls, and settlement prepared with No. on the margin, signing with me.

M. G. E.

LEONARDO SABAleta."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*. September 1st, 1816.

I give the data: 788 pesos, given in the second period of four months, included in the months of May, June, July and August, to the company of Mulattoes, detached in the Valley of *Matina*, to two 2nd Sergeants, volunteers, at 14, two corporals id at 11, pesos, and twelve soldiers at 10 pesos, 4 reales, as appears by the settlement and review rolls signing with me the official that acts as paymaster."

---

"Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, Dec. 31, 1816.

I give the data: 788 pesos, given in the third period of four months, which includes September to December, to the coloured militiamen detached in the Valley of *Matina*, which is made up of two Sergts. vols. at 14 pesos, two Corporals id at 11, and 14 soldiers at 10 pesos 4 reales, as appears by the rolls and settlement with the marginal number.

On id. I give in data: 780 that have been expended in buying 300 machetes for the use of the Detachment of *Caldera* and *Matina*, at the rate of 20 reales each, as appears by the or. and receipt which justify this item, with the marginal no. The recipient signs with me.

M. G. E."

### Year of 1817.

In the book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, corresponding to the year 1817, there are found the entries which literally read:

"On the 1st of May, 1817;

I give in data: 788 pesos, amount of salary for the first period of four months of this year of the Detachments in the Valley of *Matina*, which is made up of two Sec. Sergts. vols. at 14 pesos, two Corporals id. at 11 and fourteen soldiers at 10 pesos 4 reales, as appears by the settlement, prepared and notes of review, with the number of the margin signed with me.

M. G. E."

"On the 1st of Set. 1817.

I give in data: 788 pesos, which have been expended in the second period of four months, from May to the month of August, in the Detachments in the Valley of *Matina*, in two second Sergts. volunteers, at 14, two Corporals id at 11, and fourteen soldiers at 11 pesos, as appears by the settlement prepared and review of rolls, which with the No. on the margin vouch for this item, which he signs with me.

M. G.

LEONARDO SABAleta."

"On the same date (Dec. 31, 1817).

I give the data: 788 pesos, which have been expended in the third period of four months, of September, October, November and over, in the Detachment of the Valley of *Matina*, with two



Sergts. volunteers, at 14 pesos, two corporals id at 11, and 14 soldiers at 10 pesos 4 reales, as appears by the settlement prepared and review rolls, which with No. on margin vouch this item, and he signs.

M. G. E."

---

"On the same date, 15 pesos which have been given for the last baggage of this year to the eighteen men, detached in the Valley of *Matina*, as appears by the form of the receipt.

M. G. E."

---

### Year of 1818.

In the book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, corresponding to the year 1818, there are found the entries which literally read:

"No. 16. On the same date (May 1, 1818).

I give the data: 788 pesos, amount in the 1st period the credit of two Sec. Sergts. at 14 pesos, 2 corporals id at 11, and fourteen soldiers at 10 pesos, reales 4, detachments in the Valley of *Matina*, North Sea, of the coloured militiamen, as appears by the extracts of review and the settlement prepared with No. on margin, signing

M. G. E.

LEONARDO ZABALETA."

---

"No. 19. On the same date (September 1, 1818).

I give data: 788 pesos, amount of second period of four months, the credit of two second Sergts. at 14 pesos, two Corporals id at 11, and fourteen soldiers at 10 pesos, 4 reales, that have been detached in the Valley of *Matina*, North Sea, of the coloured militia, as appears by the extracts of review and settlement prepared with No. on margin, signing with me.

M. G. E.

LEONARDO ZABALETA."

"No. 23. On the same date (Dec. 31, 1818).

I give data: 788 pesos which they have given to the official that acts as paymaster for the Detachment of *Matina* for the pay taken from the Treasury in the third period of four months, corresponding to two Sec. Segts. at 14 pesos, 2 corporals id at 11, and fourteen soldiers at 10 pesos, 4 reales, as appears by the review rolls and settlement prepared with margin No.

M. G. E.

LEONARDO ZABALETA."

---

"No. 40. On the 7th of August.

I give the data: 19 pesos which given for baggage, going and returning, to 15 men, detached in the Valley of *Matina*, in the first six months of this year, at the rate of six persons per baggage, in forty double leagues, which they travel, signing with me.

M. G. E."

---

"No. 45. On the 28th of November.

I give in data: 20 pesos expended in purchase of four axes for the Detachment of *Matina* and which remain in the Hall, in case the Battalion has to operate with the Insurgents of the South Sea, as per order of No. on margin, which being overlooked was not given at proper time.

GARCÍA."

---

"No. 48. December 31.

I give the data: 19 pesos, amount of baggage of 18 men, detached in *Matina*, going and coming in the last six months of this year, signing with me the recipient.

M. G. T."

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### Year of 1819.

In the book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, corresponding to the year 1819, are found the entries which literally read:

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"No. 11. May 1st.

I give in data: 954 ps. 4 rs., amount in the first period of four months for the persons detached in the Valley of *Matina*, made up in the first two months of two 2nd Serpts., volunteers, at 14

ps., two corporals id at 11, and fourteen soldiers at 10½ ps.; but from March 2nd forward there was an increase of twelve men, by order of the Captain General as appears by the review rolls and settlement prepared with No. margin. The recipient signs with me.

GARCÍA.

LEONARDO ZABALETA."

---

"No. 15. September 8, 1819.

I give in data: 876 ps. 2 rs. given to the thirty men who have been detached in the Valley of *Matina*, from May 1st to June 20, and from this date to the end of August, which is reduced by two Corporals volunteers and eleven soldiers, getting the Sergts. 14 ps., the Corporals at 11, and the soldiers at 10 ps. four rs., as appears by the review rolls and settlement prepared with No. of margin, voucher of this item, which signs with me the one who acts as paymaster.

RAFAEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

LEONARDO ZABALETA."

---

"No. 21. December 31.

I give in data, 3,045 ps. given in account of the detachments, in the third trimestre of this year, in this form: on Sept. 20, 978 ps. 4 rs., Nov. 3, 689 ps. 4rs.—id 20,877 ps. ½ rl. for *Caldera* and 500 ps. for the same time of *Matina*, which, corresponding details not arriving from the Detachments in time, settlements were not closed, as appears by receipt No. margin.

GARCÍA.

JUAN DENGÓ."

---

"No. 31. On same date (Sept. 8, 1819).

I give in data: 27 ps. which were given to the 30 men who were detached in the Valley of *Matina*, for baggage going and coming, which the acting paymaster received, who signs with me.

RAFAEL GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

LEONARDO ZABALETA."

"No. 47. On August 16.

I give in data: 94 ps. 7 rs., amount of supplies taken to succor the Troops that were taken away from the Valley of *Matina* on account of the invasion of the *Mosquito* Nation, as appears by order No. of margin. GARCÍA."

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### Year of 1820.

In the book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, corresponding to the year 1820, are found the entries that literally read:

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"(On the second of January, 1820.)

I give in data: 599 ps. 3 rs., given to the official paymaster for last warrant for what was due to the Detachment of *Matina* from Sept. 29 until Dec. 31, though the data ought to be 1099 ps. 3 rs., as there was given me in the last item of military salaries of the past year 500 ps., I make it now the remainder noting that therein is charged 51 ps. for baggage and lights, as will show in the settlement prepared, with extracts from the review with No. on margin, voucher for this item, which he signs with me.

GARCÍA.  
DÉNGO."

---

"No. 23. (On April 4, 1820).

I give in data: 649 ps. 6 rs. given to the soldiers detached in the Valley of *Matina*, from Dec. 20, 1819, to March 20, 1820, as appears by the settlement prepared with reference to the extracts from the review, which with No. of margin vouches for this item, which he signs with me.

GARCÍA.  
JUAN DÉNGO."

---

"No. 24. On the 2nd of June.

Item, of 131 ps., 1 rl. which were credit to six soldiers of the coloured militia in Feb. and March, who were detached in the

Valley of *Matina*, as appears by the settlement signed and review rolls, which with No. of the margin vouch for this, as he signs with me.

GARCÍA.  
DENGO."

---

"No. 30. Following item of 557 ps. five and a half rls. amount of credit of one 2nd Corporal and 14 soldiers detached from this Battalion in the Valley of *Matina* from March 2nd until the end of June, credit with baggage and lights, as appears by the settlement and lists with No. in margin, signing with me.

GARCÍA.  
DENGO."

---

"No. 35. On the same date, item of 539 ps. 1½ rs. given to one 1st Corporal volunteer, and fourteen soldiers, who were detached in the Valley of *Matina* from June 20, to last of September, as appears from the vouchers No. of margin, signing with me.

GARCÍA.  
DENGO."

---

"No. 36. Following item of 738 ps. 2 rls. given to the official paymaster for pay of the coloured militiamen detached in *Matina* from July 1, to the end of Sept. to one 2nd Sergt. volunteer, and ten soldiers, in the months following, as shown by the settlement and rolls, No. margin, signing with me the official paymaster.

GARCÍA.  
JUAN DENGO."

---

"No. 40. On same date, item 557 ps. given to the official paymaster for payment of the troop of the Battalion which has been detached in *Matina* from Sept. 20 to end of Dec., which is made up of one 2nd Corporal with 11 ps. and fourteen soldiers at 10

ps. 4 rs., including 20 ps. for lights and baggage, as appears by settlement and review rolls which with marginal No. vouch this item, which he sign with me.

GARCÍA.  
DENGO."

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"No. 41. On the same date item 756 ps. given to the official paymaster for pay of troop of coloured militiamen who have been detached in *Matina*, from Feb. 1 to end of Dec. and is made up of one 2nd Sergt. volunteer, with 14 ps. and 22 soldiers at 10 ps. 4 rs. as appears from the review rolls and settlement prepared with No. margin, and signing with me,

GARCÍA.  
DENGO."

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"No. 58. On Oct. 22, item, 119 ps. 5 rs. amount of purchase 17 guns which were brought as unused from the Valley of *Matina*, as appears by statement and order for payment No. of margin, signing with me.

GARCÍA."

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### Year of 1821.

In the book of the Royal Treasury of *Cartago*, corresponding to the year 1821, are found the entries which literally read:

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"On the same date (Sept. 1, 1821), 683 ps. 3½ rs. which Don Juan Dengo received: as charged for the first trimestre of January, February and March for the coloured militiamen detached in *Matina*, which had one 2nd Sergt. at 14 ps. and twenty-two

soldiers at 10 ps. 4 rs., except in March for seven are only credited 15 days, as appears by the rolls, and settlement No. in margin.

G.  
DENGO."

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"On Sept. 1, 630 ps. 6 rs., amount of credit of fourteen soldiers detached in *Matina*, from the 21st of Dec., 1820, to 30 of April, 1821, as appears from the settlement No. of margin.

G.  
ORTEGA."

---

"On id 60 ps. 7 rs., amount of credit of thirteen soldiers, from April 29. to end of August, detached in *Matina*, without including salary of interpreter which will be made separate, as seen by the settlement No. of margin.

GARCÍA.  
ORTEGA."

---

On id (Dec. 23, 1821), 106 ps. 6½ rs. given to the free coloured militiamen, who went by order of the Governing Board (*Junta Gubernativa*) to change the Detachment of *Matina*, Nov. 21 to end of month of December inclusive in this baggage going and coming and lights, all as per lists of review prepared, signing with me.

G.  
LEONARDO ZABALETA."

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Note:

There remains to be settled the Detachments of *Matina* of Sept., Oct. and Nov., rolls not presented:—and that of *Caldera* of Nov. 17 and the month of Dec. of the year sworn.

M. G. ESCALANTE

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It is correct; and by order of Señor Secretary of State in the Department of Government, I issued the present certificate in

*San José de Costa Rica*, at 3 p. m. of the twenty-fourth day of April, 1911.

RAFAEL VILLEGAS,  
Director.

VICTOR M. RAMÍREZ,  
Official Mayor.

(SEAL; which says:

*Archivos Nacionales*  
*San José*  
*República de Costa Rica.*)

CARLOS M. JIMÉNEZ, Secretary of State in the Department of Government,

Certifies: That the preceding signature of the Director of the National Archives, which says "Rafael Villegas," is genuine.

San José, April 26, 1911.

CARLOS M. JIMÉNEZ.

(SEAL: which says:

*Secretaría de Gobernación*  
*Costa Rica.*)

Doc. 481

## Memorial of the Inhabitants of Matina.

MATINA, December 23, 1806.<sup>1</sup>

Señor Judge and Commandant:

The population of *Matina*, all natives of the city of *Cartago* and inhabitants of this Valley, appear before you in due legal form, petitioning in virtue of their distribution, that Joaquín Maroto may be arrested and put in jail, for he has taken leave of his senses, as is shown by the fact that he has deserted from his Detachment, has been failing in respect to you and abusing some of your servants, and even entering the hermitage and carrying off a tablet from the altar and making everyone sign on it and if any one would not he beat them, as is proved by all the inhabitants, and then he went to the house of Don Vicente del Corral

<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Historical Section. Bundle XLXX. No. 885.



and he took his own gun which he was still carrying and on three occasions fired it off, and in this way he has terrorized the whole Valley;

And therefore we trust that you will send him to the city of *Cartago*, and bring to the knowledge of the Governor that we all say that in no way do we tolerate him in this Valley on account of the great danger to which we are exposed by his madness; for although the said Maroto at times shows signs of being good, that is for a day or a little while, for it is proved that on every occasion that he comes to this Valley all goes wrong; and by this being done (which we ask) we shall be at peace once more.

It is justice which we ask, without any malice, etc., and we sign who know at the petition of everybody. May God Guard, etc.

*Matina*, December 23, 1806.

Vicente Corrales. Juan Andrés García José Antonio Pacheco. Manuel Moya. Miguel Alvarado.

In view of the Memorial presented to me by the residents hereof, it appears to me to be true, as set forth therein, that he deserted from this Detachment and failed in respect to me and seeking to insult the soldiers, for which reason I undertook to arrest him and he fled, but on this date I seized him in the house of Doña María Francisca del Corral and send him to you in order that you may do what seems best with him.

BERNARDINO ALVARADO.

*Cartago*, January 7, 1807.

Having seen the petition of the inhabitants of the Valley of *Matina* and the insanity of Joaquín Maroto being notorious, who was therefore and is now a prisoner in this Royal jail, he shall not be allowed to return to the said Valley, but in view of the damage the said Maroto causes in the jail and the disturbance that he makes, annoying the prisoners and the neighbors; and as he is married and has relations and needs medical attention, which he cannot get in the jail, let him be delivered to his wife or relations in order that they may attend and take care of him, keeping him with all possible security.

Let it be known by the Clerk to whom the said Maroto is entrusted and let it be recorded thereafter.

ACOSTA.

In compliance with the present order the warden of the jail delivered the said Joaquín Maroto to his wife, who was given to understand what had been directed.

LOMBARDO.

**Doc. 482 Legal Proceedings Relating to Some Cacao Plantations  
Situating in the Valley of Matina.**

CARTAGO, September 24, 1807—July 11, 1808.<sup>1</sup>

Señor Governor and Commander General of this Province:

Pedro Manuel Salguero, resident of this city of *Cartago*, appears before Your Honor in due form and says:

That it having been published by public proclamation that every tenant in the possession of *capellanías* should present himself, making redemption of them, or proposing before Your Honor the regular periods in which he would make such redemption, I submit to Your Honor with due humility that there are in my holding 1,900 pesos of cacao, *principal de capellanía*, belonging to the Convent of this city, which are under special mortgage on two plantations of cacao, called *Torno Largo* and *Ojo de Agua*, which I hold by myself in the Valley of *Barba*; and I am also tenant of 452 pesos of silver, belonging to the Curacy of the city of *España*, and 140 pesos more of silver belonging to this said Convent, which two items amount to 592 pesos, which are charged in farms, *Toto* and *La Griega* in the Valley of *Matina*, and the house where I live.

And at my advanced age God was pleased to reduce me to absolute poverty, depriving me at the same time of my sight, for which reason and being totally insolvent, as is public and notorious, and reduced to beg for assistance with which to maintain myself according to my reputation, unable to afford any help to the said farms, nor carry out the obligations of a tenant thereof, and at the same time having no property except my dwelling house, which is mortgaged for the said 592 pesos of silver; therefore, one, twice and three times and in accordance with law, I make offer of the said farms and house and give up the right of tenancy which belongs to me, in order that Your

<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Historical Section. Bundle XLIII. No. 901.

Honor may be pleased in virtue of my insolvency to determine as to the premises what may be proper, so that relieved of these obligations I may seek where I can live with my character. In view of which I beg that Your Honor may receive me as submitting in time, place and form, admitting my offer and abandonment which I make of the said premises, that I may have favor and justice therein, which I beg; and I swear in due form that I do not act from any malice but from necessity, and I do not sign being blind, but it is done by the one who appears for me.

By the one who presents himself: Josef. Greg. Cárdenas.

Notwithstanding the lien stated by this party, that it may be better provided in accord with the Sovereign provisions, let this instrument be forwarded to the Royal Subordinate Council of Consolidation of the city of *León*, so that it being before them they may provide as may be desirable in the matter, giving notice.

Government of *Costa Rica*, September 24, 1807.

THOMÁS DE ACOSTA.

JOSÉ STOS. LOMBARDO.

On the same day I gave notice of the foregoing proceedings to Pedro Manuel Salguero and that he was notified of it, I certify.

LOMBARDO.

Board of Consolidation. February 13, 1808.

Let the offer which this party makes of the premises which are mentioned, be admitted; and the Señor Governor of *Cartago* will proceed to take the proper steps for their alienation and their security in accordance with the instructions.

SALVADOR.

BUSTAMENTE.

SEVERINO ALARCÓN.

In accordance with the mandate in the foregoing document let the proceedings for alienation of the premises of which the party makes offer be proceeded with, proceeding by public sale for the fair value thereof, for which there are named as appraisers on the part of this tribunal for the house in this city Mariano Matorros and Rafael Pacheco, and let the Syndic appoint on his part those who may be proper for said house and the plantations of *Matina*, which judge will deliver a written order for said purpose, who on his part will appoint intelligent persons in that

Valley and being sworn in conformity with law, the said proceedings will be carried out, those of this city reporting to the present Clerk and being ended any of them let them be submitted. It is provided and ordered and signed by the Government of this Province in accord with the provisional Señor Curate of this city of *Cartago*, on the 17th day of the month of March, 1808.

THOMÁS DE ACOSTA.

RAFAEL JOSÉ DE LA ROSA.

Before me, José Stos. Lombardo.

On the 26th day of the said month and year, I went to the dwelling house of Sr. Don Manuel Marchena, Syndic of the Convent of Our Father St. Francis, to whom I made known the foregoing proceedings, and being informed thereof he said: That he is agreed with the appraisers appointed and with those who shall be in *Matina* by the Judge of that Valley, without prejudice to the results of the pending suit which Pedro Salguero has with the estate of the late Don Antonio de la Fuente, that the latter may take the plantations of *Matina* and return the house of the Plaza, as belonging to the Convent as it is declared, and on appeal on the part of the late Don Antonio for eleven years; this he says and signed it.

MANL. MARCHA.

LOMBARDO.

On the 1st of April of said year a despatch was delivered to the Judge of *Matina* as provided in the foregoing document. I certify.

LOMBARDO.

Don Tomás de Acosta, Lieutenant Colonel of the Royal Forces, Governor and Commander General for H. M. of this province, Sud-delegate of the Intendant and of the Sr. Royal Commissary, &c.

Whereas, Pedro Manuel Salguero, having made offer of the *principales de Capellanía* which are held by him; and which are composed of 1,900 pesos of cacao belonging to the Convent of this city, which are stated to be under special mortgage in two plantations of cacao trees, named *Torno Largo* and *Ojo de Agua*, in the Valley of *Barbilla*, with 140 more pesos of money of the same ownership, and 450 of the Curacy of *Espanza*, which 592 pesos are charged on two other plantations named *Toto* and *La*

*Griega* in the Valley of *Matina* and his dwelling house; and the matter having been forwarded by this Government to the subordinate Board of Consolidation, in order that it should determine as to the statement submitted, the offer was admitted, and by accord with the Provisional Curate of this city, on the 17th of the past month, the document was prepared which reads as follows:

In accordance with the mandate in the foregoing instrument let the proceedings for the alienation of the premises of which the party makes offer be proceeded with, proceeding by public sale for the fair value thereof, for which there are named as appraisers on the part of this Tribunal for the house in this city Mariano Matamoros and Rafael Pacheco, and let the Syndic appoint on his part those who may be proper for said house and the plantations of *Matina*, which judge will deliver a written order for said purpose, who on his part will appoint intelligent persons in that Valley, and being sworn in conformity with law the said proceedings will be executed, those of this city reporting to the present Clerk, and being ended any of them let them be submitted.

And it having been made known to the said Syndic, he said: He was agreed with the appraisers appointed and that might be appointed by the said Judge. Therefore, in order that what is provided may be duly executed, I deliver the present, by which I order and command my Deputy Judge of police of the Valley of *Matina*, that informing himself of the foregoing papers he proceed as promptly as possible to the appraisal of the plantations mentioned, appointing for the purpose intelligent appraisers to his satisfaction, making return of the original measures which are taken and in virtue of this, which is dated at *Cartago*, the 1st of April, 1808.

THOMÁS DE ACOSTA.

By command of His Honor, José Stos. Lombardo.

Let it be executed and complied with as commanded in the foregoing papers delivered by His Honor the Governor appointing for the purpose appraisers of the plantations mentioned, Juan de los Santo Chavarría and Simon Angulo Aquienes, and this appointment being made known to them and being accepted by them, let them be sworn in accordance with law for the performance of their duties.

Thus I provide, Don Sebastián de Guevara, Captain of Militia for H. M. and Political Judge in this Valley of *Matina*, on the 25th day of the month of April, 1808.

Before the witnesses present, who act in default of a clerk, which I certify.

SEBASTIÁN DE GUEVARA.  
JUAN ANDRÉS GARCÍA.  
THOMÁS ALBUROLA.

Therefore, I, the said Judge, having present Juan de los Santos Chavarría and Simón Angulo, I informed them of the foregoing papers and being fully advised of the matter they said that they accepted and will accept the appointment of appraisers of the said plantations, in virtue of which they were sworn that they would act in conformity with law, under charge of which they promised to perform their duty faithfully as they knew and understood it, and they signed it with me and those present for lack of a notary, which I certify.

SEBASTIÁN DE GUEVARA.  
JUAN ANDRÉS GARCÍA.  
THOMÁS ALBUROLA.  
JUAN CHAVARRÍA.  
SIMÓN ANGULO.

On the same day the said appraisers valued and appraised the plantation of *Torno Largo*, which is composed of 959 trees at the price of a *real* of silver for each tree, and 254 of the same at a half *real*, which both amount to 135 pesos six reales.

Item: They counted and valued the plantation called *Toto*, 1500 trees, which they appraised at one real and a half each, and 85 of the same at a half real, which both make up the amount of 286 pesos, four and a half *reales*.

Item: They do not give any value or appraisalment to the plantations named *Ojo de Agua* and *La Griega*, because they are ruined.

With which, this being concluded, and in order that it may be returned to the Tribunal of the Governor by which it was

ordered and directed, the said appraisers sign it with me, with those present for lack of a clerk, which I certify.

SEBASTIÁN DE GUEVARA.

JUAN ANDRÉS GARCÍA.

JUAN CHAVARRÍA.

SIMÓN ANGULO.

THOMÁS ALBUROLA.

Let it be placed with the despatch to which it belongs and be brought.

Government of *Costa Rica*. July 7, 1808.

Considering; and in view of the exception submitted by the Syndic of the Convent in his response of the 13, let it be known by María Francisca Alvarado if she agrees to the sale or public auction which is claimed of the plantations indicated and are litigated on her part and let it be brought with her reply.

Government of *Costa Rica*, July 8, 1808.

Before me, José Stos. Lombardo.

On the same day, I, the clerk of this tribunal of His Honor and in performance of the duties of the Clerk, went to the dwelling house of Doña María Francisca Alvarado and having made known the proceeding and authority, she said, that she was agreed and was satisfied that the plantations be sold which were referred to, and their amount be deposited until the determination of the suit, which is pending between her and the Syndic of the Convent; giving this as her reply and not signing it on account of her illness, I do it so that it may appear.

JOAQUÍN GARCÍA.

In view of the foregoing response, let there be given due effect what was commanded in the proceedings of the 17th of March last.

*Cartago*, July 11, 1808.

T. ACOSTA.

JOSÉ STOS.

LOMBARDO.

Doc. 483 The Governor of Costa Rica to the Commandant of Matina, Advising Him That He Should Repel Force by Force if Any Hostilities Should be Undertaken Against that Port.

CARTAGO, September 13, 1808.<sup>1</sup>

If any English vessel shall arrive at that Port with a flag of truce (that is, with a white flag), although it be to bring some paper or papers for delivery, it shall not on that account be permitted to enter the Port, but the papers being taken it shall be made to set sail without further delay, letting it be understood that on account of the great distance from here to *Guatemala* there can be no reply in less than two months and that I have no order for any foreign vessel to remain at the Port; that it shall therefore leave and come back for the reply within the time stated, and the papers that it has brought you shall forward to me immediately.

If, notwithstanding these reasons, and the others that you may state with courteous manner and politeness, it shall persist in not leaving the Port or shall undertake any hostile act, you will use force against force in whatever way you can, and you shall at once send me word of everything so that I may take my own measures; but if any supplies, such as are produced in the valley, are needed, they shall be furnished at a fair price therefor, which they shall pay for in actual silver and under no account in merchandise of any sort. Of the receipt of this you will advise me, etc.

Cartago, September 13, 1808.

TOMÁS DE ACOSTA.

Circular to the Commandant and Judge of *Matina*.

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<sup>1</sup> Peralta—*Lím. de C. R. y Col.*, p. 202.



**The Governor of Costa Rica to the Commandant of Doc. 484  
Matina.**

CARTAGO, March 17, 1809.<sup>1</sup>

In view of the serious and contagious illness from which (under date of the 11th instant) you advise me that the Senior Judge of that valley suffers, and of which some news had already reached me, as soon as you receive this you will take charge of the political command of that district and of everything that pertains thereto, with due formality of inventory, and as soon as the Captain Don Sabastián de Guevara reaches there you will deliver over to him the said command and everything that concerns it.

You will arrange that the cacao which belongs to the owners in this city may be forwarded as quickly as may be, so that the account may be closed up to the end of the past year.

May God, etc.

Cartago, March 16, 1809.

TOMÁS DE ACOSTA.

To the Señor Sergeant Commandant of *Matina*.

**Report of the Governor of Costa Rica, Colonel Don Tomás Doc. 485  
de Acosta, to the Universal Minister of the Treasury,  
Concerning the Commerce and Cultivation of Tobacco.**

CARTAGO, April 19, 1809.<sup>1</sup>

It is not possible for *Costa Rica* to establish any commerce by sea or land; because upon the sea good ports are necessary, with a place where cargos are to be received and delivered not very far therefrom, and that there shall be consumers and that the cargos shall come promptly and consist of desirable products. Let us see if such is the case in this province.

Upon the North Sea there is no commodious port, because in reality *Matina* is not one, but it is rather an open roadstead buffeted by the winds of the first quarter which blow during

<sup>1</sup> Peralta, *Lím. de C. R. y Col.*, p. 293.

<sup>1</sup> General Archives of the Indies at Seville. Peralta, *Lím. de C. R. y Col.*, p. 203.

the most of the year, raising a sea so strong that vessels cannot maintain themselves at anchor and the one that does not set sail perishes; where the savage tribes who live along from Cape *Gracias á Dios* to the River *Chagres* travel to and fro the greater part of the year and rob the vessels indifferently when they are intoxicated. For this reason navigators avoid these shores and so much so that during the two years that I have held this command only two vessels came in from necessity, and one of these perished upon the coast by stranding.

The Port of *Mohín*, which lies toward the South, is well sheltered and has a good anchorage; but its entrance is narrow and only suitable for sloops, schooners and other vessels which draw but little water. It is troubled by the barbarous Indians, and in common with this suffers by the distance from the places where cargos are to be received and delivered; because from *Mohín* to *Matina* it is seven leagues along the beach of arid sand, without any water to drink; beside which at *Matina* there is no regular population except the scattered cacao plantations, and this product is not the most desired for exportation; nor is there a settlement which consumes any important quantity of goods.

This has to be done by this city and the other settlements inland, the least distant of which from the sea is thirty or forty leagues, and over the worst roads I ever travelled in Spain or America. So that even though the ports of the North Sea had all the advantages imaginable, no commerce could be expected by them, in view of the inconveniences presented by the distances of the principal ports and the roughness of the roads, and where it rains the greater part of the year, so that consequently whatever is transported and brought to *Matina* suffers some damage.

There are from 55,000 to 60,000 souls in this province (some one city regularly settled has more) and their poverty is notorious. Therefore there is no inducement to attract commerce, even if it should be conceded all the privileges imaginable; and if to this be added the facts as to the distances and the roads, still less would they come here, because it is unquestionable that trade is most active where the consumption of what is brought in is the quickest and the more prompt it is to get what

is to be carried back in return. These things being lacking, ports that are safe and commodious and products suitable for exportation, it is evident that there will never be any commerce by the North Coast, for it is reduced to these—to tobacco which is stopped to not very good sugar, wheat and other grains of the region.

On the South there is the Port of *Punta de Arenas*, very capacious, sheltered, with sufficient water for any vessel and with a good anchorage. But what can come in by that port? From *Panama*, only some European goods which have passed through three or four hands, getting very dear and consequently slow and difficult of sale. And what can go out? The products of the country; which have already been referred to, which on account of their inferior quality are not wanted when they have those of *Peru*; so for these reasons those who have recently taken products from here to *Panama* are getting out of that business. But has not this province had, or does it not have, any trade with any other port of the South Sea? No, Señor, nor can it have, unless it be tobacco with the Kingdom of *Peru* or with that of *Mexico*.

From all the foregoing it may be concluded; that in order to get this province out of the misery in which it lies, there is no other means except that of conceding to it the supply of tobacco to this Kingdom, that of *Mexico* and *Peru*. This, Señor, is the opinion to which I am led by honor, conscience and the experience which I have had in *Costa Rica*; as to which Your Majesty will decide as shall be for your Royal pleasure.

May God guard the C. C. R. R. (the catholic royal person) of Your Majesty for many happy years, of which the Monarchy has need.

Cartago, April 19, 1809.

Señor: A. L. R. P. (at the Royal feet) of Your Majesty.

TOMÁS DE ACOSTA.

Doc. 486      The Governor of Costa Rica to the Judge of Matina.

CARTAGO, June 3, 1809.<sup>1</sup>

I enclose you herewith a copy of the order which I received by this mail from the M. I. S. P. (Most illustrious Señor President) Governor and Captain-General of this Kingdom, dated the 6th ultimo, referring to the great vigilance and many precautions which must be taken regarding the vessels that come from Spain, and therefore, not only because we do not know the signatures of those who despatch those vessels, but on account of this port not being declared a minor one, except for those that may come from *Cartagena de Indias*, I command you under no pretext to admit any vessel which does not come from said *Cartagena*, and this after having observed everything provided for in said copy, so that we shall be free of any fraud; but if by reason of necessity any vessel should arrive there from any port in Spain, you will not only carry out judicially the necessary measures required by the needs of such arrival, but also whatever said superior order provides, and all under the personal responsibility of yourself and of the Sergeant Commandant of the detachment there, to whom I send a like copy, so that in everything you shall proceed in accord, in a matter so important to the Royal service and the public peace. Of the receipt of this you will give to me due acknowledgement.

May God guard, etc.

Cartago, June 3, 1809.

TOMÁS DE ACOSTA.

To the Señor Judge of *Matina*.

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*, p. 206.

The Municipal Council of Cartago is Authorized to Spend a Sum for Repairing the Matina Road. Doc. 487

1810.<sup>1</sup>

May you be pleased to present to the Superior Board of the Royal Treasury of this Kingdom, the annexed statement of this Municipal Council (*Ayuntamiento*), relating to the expense which the road from *Matina* urgently requires; and of its receipt you will give me advice. May God guard you many years.

*Cartago*, March 5, 1810.

THOMÁS DE ACOSTA.

SEÑORES OF THE SUPERIOR BOARD OF THE ROYAL TREASURY:

The Noble Municipal Council of *Cartago* submits to Your Honors,—that from the 13th to the 17th, inclusive, of December, last past, there was suffered in the Valley of *Matina* and upon its road to this city such a heavy rain and strong winds that trees have fallen and in many places breaks have been caused, which have made the way impassable and the pack-trains cannot carry on their traffic. The Municipal Council being informed of this accident, with the accord of its President sent viewers to look over the territory with a view of opening another highway leading to *Matina*, the present one being continually undergoing repairs, which have been very expensive for the inhabitants here; the viewers being charged that if such was not found they should investigate the damages which the road had undergone and estimate what its repair would cost. The Commissioners did in fact go and after sixteen days going in the woods they are satisfied there is not in the whole extent of *Matina* any other section more suitable for the traffic by pack-trains than the one that they had been accustomed to use for many years; that to repair the damages caused by the storm during the days above mentioned, they estimate that fifteen men in a like number of days can make it passable; and that they estimate the cost of this work will amount to 200 pesos, more or less.

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<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Historical Section. Bundle XLIV. No. 929.

Article 34 of the Ordinances of Intendants provides that no expense from funds of public lands exceeding 40 pesos shall be incurred without the previous authority being had from the Superior Board of the Royal Treasury; therefore, we come to Your Honors, begging that we may be permitted this indispensable appropriation from the funds, without which the trade in cacao which *Matina* produces will be cut off and it will deprive us of the necessary market of this product; it not being possible for this population to bear this disbursement in addition to what it has had and now has, for it is collecting 3,600 pesos for the amount of the bridge which was recently constructed, in which no one is more interested than the Royal Treasury, for getting out the tobacco which is obtained from this province, and not all the residents of it but only a very small number have mules; but notwithstanding and with all their poverty which is notorious, all have contributed proportionately.

May God guard Your Excs. many years. Chapter Hall of *Cartago*, February 26, 1810.

THOMÁS DE ACOSTA.

JUAN FRANCISCO DE BONILLA.

ERMENEGILDO BONILLA.

MANUEL MARCHENA.

JOAQUÍN DE OREAMUNO.

Royal Palace, April 2, 1810. Let it be acknowledged and sent to the *Fiscal* (Attorney General).

Thus he provided, directed and marked it, the Sr. Don José Méndez, Colonel and Commander of the Royal Troop of Artillery, Knight of the Royal and Distinguished Order of Alcántara of the M. I. S. G. and C. G. of this Kingdom, Don Antonio González, before me, which I certify.

ANTONIO ARROYAVE.

The Fiscal of H. M. says: Your Worship will be pleased to direct that this despatch be sent to the Royal Audiencia for its information. *Guatemala*, April 30, 1810.

Royal Palace, May 7, 1810. Let this despatch be sent to the Tribunal of the Royal Audiencia for its information.

Méndez. Antonio Arroyave. Amount 245 ps.

Royal Audiencia, May 9, 1810.

To the Sr. Fiscal. Juan Hurtado.

MOST ILLUSTRIOUS SIR: The Fiscal of H. M. says: That Your Worships are authorized to grant your Superior permission, in order that the Governor and Municipal Council of *Cartago* may expend from their public land funds the 200 pesos which they request, for the repair of the road from *Matina*. *Guatemala*, May 12, 1810.

Royal Audiencia, May 14, 1810. It having been considered by us, let the permission be granted for the expenditure of 200 pesos from the public land funds for the repair of the road from *Matina*, with the provision that an account be rendered of its expenditure, for which purpose let a letter be written by the *Escribanía de Cámara* (office of the Secretary of the Chamber) and let the corresponding amounts be taken.

ALTEQUIETA.

CAMPUZANO.

SERRANO POLO.

JUAN HURTADO.

On the 16th of May, 1810, the Señor Fiscal was informed of the foregoing Royal Document and he affixed his rubric, which I certify.

JOSEPH RODRIGO CARBALLO, Notary.

This has been done before me as there is no person present for the foregoing matter. CARBALLO.

Let the amount be taken. General Accounting Office of Public Land Funds. May 18, 1810. Letter was written the said day. Send statement to P. and Collector.

I will communicate to this Noble Municipal Council the permission which was granted in the Decree of the 14th of the month last past, so that the public land funds may be charged with 200 ps. for the repair of the road from *Matina*, with which I discharge the direction of Your Worships of the 18th of the last month. May God guard you many years.

*Cartago*, June 27, 1810.

THOMÁS DE ACOSTA.

Sr. DON JUAN HURTADO, Sec. of Chamber."

## Appointments of Judges of Matina.

1815-1819.<sup>1</sup>

In the city of *Cartago*, on the first of January of 1815, I, Don Juan de Dios de Ayala, military and political Governor of this Province of *Costa Rica*, for the King our Master, Don Fernando VII, in compliance with the Royal Order of July 30, of the year last past, in which he provides that all matters be put in the same order and condition as they had in the year 1808; and only having in this year, in this city, two *Alcaldes Ordinarios*, one *Alcalde de Provincia* with Royal Title, one attorney general and one *Mayordomo de Propios* (Superintendent of estates) appointed by my predecessor in virtue of Chap. Eleven of the Ordinance of Intendants; under the same Royal authority and in virtue of the said Royal Order of July 30, I appoint as First *Alcalde* of this city, Señor Col. Don Juan Francisco de Bonilla; and as Second, Don Ramón Ximénez; Attorney General, the Captain of Grenadiers, Don Joaquín de Oriamuno, and as *Mayordomo de Propios* the Lieut. Don. Manuel Sáenz, who each took the corresponding oath as provided by the laws and continued in the conduct and exercise of their functions, signing with me, and the witnesses present, with whom I act in lieu of a Clerk; which I certify.

JUAN DE DIOS DE AYALA.

JUAN FRANCISCO DE BONILLA.

RAMON XIMÉNEZ.

JOAQUÍN OREAMUNO.

MANUEL SÁENZ.

JOSEF IGNACIO DE RUCABADO.

JOAQUÍN CARAZO.

In the city of *Cartago*, on the first of January, 1816 years. I, Don Juan de Dios de Ayala, Knight of the Order of Santiago, Lieut. Colonel of the Royal Forces, political and military Governor for H. M. of this Province of *Costa Rica*, and sub-delegate of the Intendant therein as provided in the mandate by the King our Master in the Royal *cédula* of July 30, 1814,

<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Historical Section. Bundle XLV. No. 1044.



and the provision in Article Eleven of the Royal Ordinance of Intendants; lacking still a Municipal Council (*Ayuntamiento*) in this city, it being incomplete; exercising the power which H. M. confers upon me in the said Article, I proceed to make the selection of *Alcaldes Ordinarios* and the other officers of justice for this city and the settlements of this province, to serve in the present year in the following form:

For this city: First *Alcalde*, Don José Santos Lombardo; Second id. Don Pedro Carazo; *Procurador Síndico*, Don Ermengildo Bonilla; *Mayordomo de Propios*, Don Joaquín Carazo.

For *San José*: First *Alcalde*, D. Rafael Gallegos; Second id. Don José Francisco Madriz.

For *Heredia*: First *Alcalde*, Don Pedro López; Second id. Don Antonio Heyes.

For *Alajuela*: First *Alcalde*, Don Fermín González; Second id. Don Franco Barquero.

For *Bagaces*: Deputy Governor, Don Manuel Fernández.

For *Esparza*: id. Petty Judge Juan Campos.

For *Ujarrás*: id. Eduardo Picado and Marcos Morales.

For *Pueblo Nuevo*: id. Don Manuel Conejo.

For *Escazú* id. Don Francisco González.

For the Village of *Barba*: id. Francisco Mexías.

For *Matina*: id. Francisco Barrios.

With this I concluded this selection, which I approve according to law, interposing as I do interpose my authority and judicial decree as I can and ought for their greater surety and validity;

And the foregoing persons being present as selected (with the exception of the Second *Alcalde* for *San José* and Deputy of *Bagaces*, on account of absence) they accepted respectively the said positions; in virtue of which, separately, before witnesses in my presence, with whom I acted for lack of a notary, I received from them the oath in due form and according to law, under which they each promised to discharge faithfully and legally the duty which was conferred upon them, saying at the conclusion of the oath: So I swear, Amen: and having de-

livered the insignia of justice to those who are to administer it, they signed with me and said witnesses, to which I certify:

Juan de Dios de Ayala.	Nicolás de Peralta.
Matías Araya.	José Stos. Lombardo.
Pedro José Carazo.	Ermenegildo Bonilla.
Joaquín Carazo.	Josef Rafael de Gallegos.
Pedro Anto. López.	Anto. Reyes.
Fermín González.	Franco Barquero.
Manuel Campos.	Franco González.
Eduardo Picado.	

In the city of *Cartago*, on the first of January, of 1817 years, I, Don Juan de Dios de Ayala, Knight of the Order of Santiago, Colonel of the Royal Forces abroad, political and military Governor for H. M. of this Province of *Costa Rica*, sub-delegate of the Intendant.

In view of the mandate by the King, our Master, in the Royal *cédula* of July 30, 1814, and the provision of Article Eleven of the Royal Ordinances of Intendants, lacking still a Municipal Council (*Ayuntamiento*) in this city, it being incomplete, exercising the powers which H. M. conferred upon me in the said Article, I proceed to make selection of *Alcaldes Ordinarios* and other officers of justice for this city and the settlements of this province, that they serve in the present year, in the form following:

For this city: First *Alcalde*, the Captain of the Army and of this Provincial Batallion, Don Joaquín de Oreamuno; Second id. Don Joaquín Carazo, Lieut. of this Provincial Batallion: *Procurador Síndico*, the Captain of the Battalion of this Province, Don José Antonio García; *Mayordomo de Propios*, Don Nicolás Peralta.

For *San José*: First *Alcalde*, the Lieut. Col. Don Félix Fernández; Second id. Don Hilario Zeledón.

For *Heredia*: First *Alcalde*, Don Julián Zamora. Second id. Don Juan de Jesús Porras.

For *Alajuela*: First *Alcalde*, Don Juan Alfaro; Second id. Don. José Miguel Zamora.

For *Bagaces*: Dep. Gov. Don Manuel Fernández.

For *Esparza*: Don Alejandro Aguilar.

For *Ujarrás*: Petty Judge Manuel Morales.

For *Pueblo Nuevo*: Franco. Anto. Conejo.

For *Iscasú*: id. Bartolo Guerro.

For *Pueblo de Barba*: id. Don Bernardo Rodríguez.

For *Matina*: id. the Sergt. of coloured troops Simón Gutiérrez.

With which I concluded this selection, which I legally approve, interposing my authority and judicial decree as I can and ought for their greater surety and validity; and the foregoing persons selected being present, being re-eligible the Dep. of *Bagaces*, Don Manuel Fernández, for which reason his presence is not necessary, they accepted respectively the said positions; in virtue of which separately before witnesses, in my presence, with whom I acted for lack of a notary, they received from me the oath in due form and according to law, under which they promised to faithfully and legally execute the duties conferred upon them, saying at the conclusion of the oath: So I swear, Amen. And having delivered the insignia of justice to those who were to administer it, they signed with me and the said witnesses; to which I certify.

Juan de Dios de Ayala.

Joaguín Oreamuno.

Joaquín Carazo.

Josef Antonio García.

Nicolás Peralta.

Bernardo Rodríguez.

Félix Fernández.

Ilario Zeledón.

Juan Alfaro.

Julián Zamora.

Juan de Jesús Porras.

Simón Gutiérrez.

**Miguel Zamora.**

Manuel Mora.

Francisco Conejo.

Alejandro Aguilar.

By the Petty Judge of *Iscasú*:

FÉLIX OREAMUNO.

JOAQUÍN DE IGLESIAS.

JOSÉ GREGORIO CÁRDENAS.

In the city of *Cartago*, the first of January, 1818 years; I, Don Juan de Dios de Ayala, Knight of the Order of Santiago, Colonel of the Royal Forces abroad, political and military Gov. for H. M. of the Province of *Costa Rica* and subdelegate of the Intendant therein; under the mandate of H. M. in Article Eleven of the Royal Ordinance of Intendants and the recent Royal *cédula* of September 1, 1816, in obedience to which during the whole of the month last past there have been proclaimed

the offices of *Regidores* of which this *Cabildo* is lacking, without any applicant having appeared; for which reason and there being no Municipal Council in this said city, not having any other person than the *Alcalde Provincial*, Don Manuel Marchena who may serve in virtue thereof and in order to punctually and duly carry out the said Royal Resolution as I have arranged it, with opinions of counsel in a document of this day, in the despatch of the matter which for the same purpose I directed thereafter to be sent to the Archives of the *Cabildo*; exercising the powers which have been granted to me in such matters by H. M. in the said Article to make selection of *Alcaldes Ordinarios* and other officers of justice for this city, and the places included within this command, together with the *Regidores* who are to compose the Noble Municipal Council, *Síndico Procurador* and *Mayordomo de Propios*, who are to serve in the present year, in the following form:

For this city: First *Alcalde*, the Lic. Don Rafael Barroeta; Second id. Don José Santos Lombardo; Royal Ensign, Don Miguel Angel Núñez del Arco; *Alguacil Mayor*, the Sub-Lieut. Don Ramón Jiménez; Public Executor (officer who serves executions), the Sub-Lieut. Don Joaquín Hidalgo; *Regidor sencillo*, the Lieut. Don Joaquín Prieto; id. Don Vicente Fábrega; *Procurador Síndico*, Don Manuel María Peralta; *Mayordomo de Propios*, Don Alexandro García Escalante.

For the city of *San José*: First *Alcalde*, Don José Ana Jiménez; Second id. Don Romualdo Saborío.

For the town of *Heredia*: First *Alcalde*, Don Blas Pérez; Second id. Don Francisco Borbón.

For the town of *Alajuela*: First *Alcalde*, Don Juan Agustín Lara; Second *Alcalde*, Don Silvestre Ramos.

For *Bagaces*: Dep. Gov. Don Manuel Fernández.

Judges *preventivos*:

For *Esparza*: Don Julián Rodríguez.

For *Pueblo Nuevo*: Don Manuel Conejo.

For *Barba*: José Morillo.

For *Iscasú*: Santiago Delgado.

For *Ujarráz*: José María Acuña.

For *Matina*: Francisco Almerique.

With which this selection is concluded, which I approve for all legal purposes and for its greater surety and validity I interpose my authority and judicial decree as I can and ought. And the persons selected being present, before witnesses, in my presence, for whom I act for lack of a clerk, from each one separately, I received the oath, which they made in legal form, by which they respectively promised to well, faithfully and legally discharge the duty which had been conferred upon them, and at the end of the oath they said: So I swear and Amen: and having delivered the insignia of justice to those who were to administer it, they signed with me and said witnesses: which I certify.

Juan de Dios de Ayala.	Rafael Barroeta.
José Santos Lombardo.	Miguel Angel Núñez del Arco.
Ramon Ximénez.	Joaquín Hidalgo.
José Joaquín Prieto.	Vicente Fábrega.
Manuel María de Peralta.	José Ana Ximénez.
Josef Nicolás de Oreamuno.	Romualdo Saborío.
Blas Pérez.	José Franco de Borbón.
Juan Agn Lara.	Silvestre Ramos.
Manuel Conejo.	José María Acuña.
Alexandro García Escalante	

In the city of *Cartago*, on the first of January, 1819: I, Don Juan de Dios de Ayala, Knight of the order of Santiago, Col. of the Royal Forces abroad, political and military Governor for H. M. of this Province of *Costa Rica*, and Sub-delegate of the Intendant therein.

In view of the mandate by H. M. in Article Eleven of the Royal Ordinances of Intendants, exercising the power which was granted to me to make the selection of Royal Judges and other officers of justice in the settlements of this province, with the exception of this city, there having been established therein a Municipal Council in virtue of the recent Royal *cédula* of February 1, 1816, in virtue whereof I ought to make and do make it in the following manner:

For the city of *San José*; for First *Alcalde*, Don José Francisco Madriz; Second id. Don Lorenzo Zumbado.

For the town of *Heredia*: for First *Alcalde*, Don Pedro López; Second id. Don Cipriano Pérez.

For the town of *Alajuela*: for Second *Alcalde*, Don José Angel Soto; First id. Don José Francisco Saborío.

For *Bagaces*: for Dep. Gov., the Captain Nicolás Oreamuno.

For *Esparza*: for Judge *preventivo*, Juan Chávez.

For *Ujarrás*: for Judge *preventivo*, Esteban Morales.

For *Matina*: for Judge *preventivo*, Simón Gutiérrez.

For *Barba*: for Judge *preventivo*, Don Ignacio Ugalde.

For *Isasú*: for Judge *preventivo*, Manuel León.

For *Pueblo Nuevo*: for Judge *preventivo*, Francisco Antonio Conejo.

With which the selection was concluded, which is approved, and for its greater surety and validity I interpose my authority and judicial decree, so far as I legally can and ought; and those selected being present, before the witnesses, in my presence, with whom I acted for lack of a notary, from each one separately I received the oath, which they took in form of law, under which they promised to faithfully and legally discharge the duty which was conferred upon them; and at the end of the oath they said: So I swear and Amen: and having delivered the insignia of the Royal justice to those who should administer it, they signed it with me and the said witnesses: which I certify.

By the illness of the Sr. Gov. and by his order: Rafael Barroeta.

José Franco Madriz.

Lorenzo Sumbado.

Pedro Anto. López.

Cypriano Pérez.

Jph. Saborío.

Ignacio Ugalde.

José Angel Soto.

Esteban Merales.

Franco. Antonio Conejo. Simón Gutiérrez.

For Manl. de Jesús Leon and as witness: Joaquín Carazo. Antolino Ramírez.

Don Juan de Dios de Ayala, Governor of Costa Rica, Doc. 489  
Initiates a Public Subscription for the Repairing of the  
Matina Road.

1817-1819.<sup>1</sup>

BELOVED INHABITANTS OF COSTA RICA:

Your Governor speaks to you: your faithful friend, who from his entry into this delightful country has had no other desire than to secure the prosperity and improvement which is justly your due; but I have never been able to fulfill your vast ideas which have gone no further than discussion, and all the efforts that have been planned have been frustrated, notwithstanding your patriotism has always concurred to secure the result desired but which has not been attained. And therefore it is that unfortunately, every day the misery becomes more acute which is so deeply felt in my heart and I do not wish to leave this Province nor lose your kind companionship without there being some change in this sad situation of inaction in which you are involved by the absolute lack of commerce to provide for the exportation of the valuable fruits and other products with which it abounds. But hesitating over this unfortunate situation of yours, my soul already seems flooded with joy at the prospect of its future felicity, so that this Province, which is now the object of scorn and derision, shall be the emulation of others and surely make the name of *Costa Rica* distinguished in the Kingdom. You will feel the effect of it.

The Valley of *Matina*, which is only distant from this city thirty leagues, and the Port of which is opened in the North, produces the valuable product of cacao, and although its farms have been planted since 1656 and have suffered the greatest neglect, they flourish in the woods abundantly: what would they do if they were cultivated and re-established? And those lands and that climate can produce every kind of grain. But in that settlement if the laborer plants too much it is lost, as you have always noticed, because there is no outlet for it, nor can it be consumed. From the port of *Matina* to those of *Cartagena*, *Portobelo*, *Cha-*

<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Historical Section. Bundle XLI. No. 1088.

*gres*, *San Andrés* and others of interest, the distance is well known to be short and there is no need to state it, nor is it necessary to refer to the poverty of those places. On the South you have the Port of *Punta de Arenas*, at the same distance; that is to say, from the latter to the one on the North it is sixty leagues: which section (the envy of many Kingdoms) promises the greatest advantages for the establishment of permanent communication with a steady and active commerce from one Sea to the other.

From all that has been said, and more that could be stated and with which you are familiar, there will be evident the utility of being able to convert your products into cash, which is so much lacking, as you know. It is clear that many strong arms being employed, which are now without employment resting in idleness, the farmer could extend his plantings very greatly, assured of the benefit and that he would reap the reward of his toil. The owners of pack-trains and of cattle would arrange to multiply their fortunes, convinced of the value which their animals and carrying capacity would have. The Royal Collection Offices, which are now in such a low state, would obtain large increases in the ingress of duties on imports and exports. And lastly (foreseeing other benefits which are apparent) many persons of the Province, who have deserted it on account of their great poverty, would come back to it, gladly, children to their fathers and husbands to their wives, which ties they severed with great sorrow, as you know and are witnesses.

Yes, this is all an absolute truth. But how have you been deprived and still are deprived of such happiness? How shameful it is to tell it, but it must be stated. All the efforts of a Province, not able to provide for a road that only measures at the most thirty leagues, which from time immemorial has been travelled over sharp ridges and steep hills and miry swamps, and without the help of houses, which has cost the life of entire families and a tremendous number of mules which have perished and are continually being lost. You well know that there is in this no exaggeration—but never yet has the inertia been overcome with which the one thing has been postponed which can sustain your existence. Let then this indolence cease; let this misery come to an end, and by remedying the evil take meas-



ures against the impending catastrophe. Let every one help with money: let egotism be abandoned, and there is here happiness for all. It is indispensable for this purpose that there shall be an abundant voluntary contribution, in which there is no doubt that the piety and the benevolence of the authorities of the Church will cooperate, both by reason of their patriotism and the general good that will result and be transmitted to posterity. There will be opened, therefore, a general subscription in this city, in *San José* and the towns of *Heredia*, *Alajuela*, *Ujarrás* and *Bagases*, in charge of their respective judges, organizing Boards in each place of all the principal residents and other influential persons, who, animated with the inspiring sentiments that have been brought out in this discourse, can and should contribute according to their means and ability.

If that which is contributed is deemed sufficient, which should not be less than 1,500 pesos, before going farther, steps will be taken to form a General Board of the Judges and principal residents of said settlements, in order to discuss what is desirable in this matter. With which, if it shall be successfully carried out, you will have attained your remedy and I shall be satisfied.

*Cartago*, June 4, 1817.

JUAN DE DIOS DE AYALA.

In the town of *Heredia*, on the 1st of March, 1818 years.

The undersigned residents thereof, having gathered in the consistorial hall of the Cabildo, in order to discuss the desirability of the opening of the old Port and road of the Valley of *Matina*, it was unanimously agreed that the first thing to discuss is the opening of the said Port in such a manner that it shall be free, and without the least hindrance; and for this the residents here offer to contribute in proportion with the residents of *Cartago* and *San Josef*: and when the opening of the said Port shall take place in the manner aforesaid, it shall be determined in what manner and in what amount it shall contribute for the opening of the road mentioned: and that for the opening of the said Port a pilot be named who shall be satisfactory to *Cartago*, *San Josef* and *Heredia*, who shall do the work with residents of *Matina* who are already accustomed to the climate,

in order not to expose the people of these places, for whose pay and expenses the preceding offer is made, and for their guaranty they sign it with the Señor First *Alcalde* and the Second.

Blas Pérez.	Franco de Borbón.
Gordiano Paniagua.	José Franco. Porras.
Juan de Jesús Porras.	Thomás González.
Jph. Julián Rodríg.	Pedro Anto. López.
Cypriano Pérez.	Manuel Paniagua.
José Antolín González.	Thomás Ugalde.
Josef de la Rosa Sáenz.	José Manl. Herrera.
Venansio Alvarado.	Joaquín Salazar.

Gov. of *Costa Rica*. March 3, 1818.

Let it be added to the papers in the matter

AYALA.

In the city of *San José*, on the 7th day of the month of March, 1818.

We, the provisional *Alcaldes Ordinarios* of this said city, being in this Capitular Hall with the permission of the Sr. Curate, Don Manuel Alvarado, and the most prominent residents whose signatures appear, with the purpose of arranging in regard to the repair of the Port and road of *Matina*, which was started by a proclamation of the Sr. Gov. of the Province in the past year; and this neighborhood desiring that this object may be fully accomplished on account of the good that will result to the entire Province, it was resolved:

That it being reported that the towns of *Heredia* and *Alajuela* not having up to the present time offered any sum that may be relied upon for the aforementioned work, and this community having subscribed as its part 500 *pesos*, more or less, and the city of *Cartago* the same, as appear by the subscriptions of that and of this city, it is agreed that these amounts shall be used in the aforesaid work, beginning with the opening of the Port, and that in order to begin the same there shall go to survey it Don Pedro Acuña or Don Antonio Pinto, the only learned persons who are unoccupied in this Province, and the compensation of the one who shall go shall be left to the consideration of the Treasurer who shall be appointed, who consult in regard to this

and other expenses for this purpose with the Señor Curate, Don Manuel Alvarado and Don Manuel Alvarado.

That the collection of the amounts subscribed in this neighborhood shall be proceeded with, for which purpose there is appointed for the interior precinct of this city Don Manuel Antonio Aguilar; and for the suburbs the respective sealers, who shall deliver to the Treasurer in order that the proper credit may be made.

That Don Hilario Zeledón shall be appointed as such Treasurer, who will make suitable arrangements with the one who shall be appointed in *Cartago*.

That while the residents of the towns of *Alajuela* and *Heredia* refuse to assist in this effort for the general welfare, it appears very just that a provisional tax be imposed upon them, until it is equal to that which has been done by this city and that of *Cartago*, for which a sufficient amount would appear to be, four reales per muleteer and one peso for each saddle or cargo animal, and as much more for each head of cattle which goes to *Matina*, and two reales for each pig; and that the proceeds of this tax be invested in the repair of the same road and Port.

That when the repair of the said road is taken up and proceeded with, which shall be as promptly as possible, a foreman with ten men shall go from this city and the same from *Cartago*; the selection and arrangement for the workmen to be made by the Treasurer with his associates.

And lastly, in regard to the impost that is imposed upon the residents of *Heredia* and *Alajuela* the Governor take counsel with the Royal Audiencia of the Kingdom for its approval, but the people of this city and of *Cartago* being contributors shall always be exempt.

With which this proceeding is ended, of which a copy shall be sent to the city of *Cartago*, being dated in *San José, ut supra*.

José Rafael de Gallegos.	Félix Fernández.
Manuel Alvarado.	Hilario Zeledón.
Benito Alvarado.	Félix de Bonilla.
Eusebio Rodríguez.	Onofre García
José Francisco Madriz.	Félix de Mora.
Anselmo Aguilar.	Camilo de Mora.
Manuel Alvarado.	Cipriano Fernández.
Manuel Antonio Aguilar.	

This is a faithful copy of the original. *San José*, March 10, 1818.

JOSEF RAFAEL DE GALLEGOS.  
FÉLIZ FERNÁNDEZ.

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Being advised of your official communication, No. 1917, I am pleased to see efforts which have been made for the welfare of the Province under your command, for your lands being even more fertile than others of this Kingdom and your location so much better adapted for the development of traffic with both Seas by reason of closeness and convenience than many others, it is very much to be regretted that your people have not availed themselves of these advantages offered to them and are reduced to misery. In the proclamation which Yr. Hon. made to them last year I observe that you touched the real point of their well-being, for it cannot be attained in a Province where roads and ports are not provided for the exportation and the importation of products; and *Matina* being one of those that can take care of a considerable traffic it is evident that it will be able to start it with *Trujillo*, *Omoa* and other of our American ports, which will be helped with the wheat, flour, cacao, potatoes and other products that are produced abundantly in these lands, to the benefit of your inhabitants and generally of those who are thus helped.

Therefore, all the efforts and endeavors of Y. Hon. should be exerted to realize your project of improving and repairing the road which leads to *Matina*. Y. Hon. should insist upon this plan, which is in fact the best that has been suggested. Let your persuasive powers be used to incite your citizens to carry it out: and there should be made use of for this the worthy ecclesiastics and Parish Priests, so that they may exhort their parishioners to assist a work which appears offers so many advantages and using all the influence which their ministerial office affords. For that purpose you will show this communication to all the Curates and express to them in my name that besides the keen satisfaction which it will afford them to perform this important service for the King and their Country, they may count upon the protection of this Government, which will give an account to H. M. and will praise the merit which is deserved by each one

and there can be no doubt of the just appreciation of their Sovereign in the rewards suitable to their career and condition.

Of what Y. Hon. may do and effect in this matter, I trust that you will give me a detailed account. May God grant Y. Hon. many years.

*Guatemala*, Nov. 3, 1818.

CARLOS URRUTIA.

Sr. Gov. of *Costa Rica*.

Let it be kept and complied with.

By the Most Excellent Señor President, Gov. and Captain General of the Kingdom; and consequently let the foregoing communication be added to the preceding in the matter.

And meanwhile and notwithstanding the various Boards of citizens which have been formed for this purpose, not only in this city but in that of *San José* and the towns of *Heredia* and *Alajuela*, it has not been possible to carry out the foregoing project, which will promote the general welfare of this Province, because now the benevolence of H. E. no less than the paternal affection of H. M. is interested in the Royal Ordinance of Intendants *Causa de Policía* (policy affairs): therefore, this government desiring on its part not to neglect any labor or effort in order to have the satisfaction of carrying out the purposes which animate them and as shown in the proclamation of June 7th of last year: at the same time showing an obedience due to the mandate of the Superior Authority.

In virtue whereof I should command and I do command that an official communication be sent, containing the foregoing by H. E. to the Curates of the principal towns of this Province for their due information and the purposes intended; and this being done, with the aid of the said Parish Priests, the worthy ecclesiastics, judges, officials and other influential residents, there shall be taken up in each locality respectively the matter of how best to carry out the complete repair of the road of *Matina*, the only means that can be made use of for the common advantage of the Province the evident misery of which requires such a remedy.

For this purpose the general concurrence of all the inhabitants is indispensable, and that in proportion to their ability and

the patriotism which should animate them in a matter of so much importance, they should manifest it openly; and as this object will be one which has the full attention of this Government, the aforesaid Boards will proceed, not only to persuade but to take the individuals that may be especially indicated and duly give an account of them to the Supreme Authority, as directed. And to begin in this city there is appointed the 15th day of the current month, for which the proper notice shall be given by the Porter of the Cabildo, to whom the order is given therefor.

And for this which I provide I also command it and I sign, Don Juan de Dios de Ayala, Lieut. Col. of the Royal Forces, Governor and Com. Gen. for H. M. of this Province at *Cartago*, December 2, 1818.

With witness, for want of a notary, which I certify.

By order of the Sr. Governor, who is ill:

RAFAEL BARROETA.

JOAQUÍN CARAZO.

On the 4th day of the said month there was sent to all the Curates the official communications provided in the foregoing papers. CARAZO.

In the city of *Cartago*, on the 7th day of the month of January, 1819 years.

I, Don Juan de Dios de Ayala, Lieut. Col. of the Royal Forces, Political and Military Governor for H. M. of this Province; for the purposes of what is provided in the foregoing paper, not having been able to be present on the day designated, on account of having been seriously ill; and there being in this Government building the ecclesiastics of this city, the officers of the Provincial Battalion and other employees and principal residents of this said city, there was read the official communication of the Most Excellent Sr. President, Governor and Captain General of this Kingdom, and the document prepared by me in pursuance thereof; and all being informed and understanding the benevolent purposes of H. E. and desirous that they aid this Government for the general welfare of the Province, by unanimous consent it was resolved, as follows:

That there shall be at once duly undertaken on the part of this city, always counting upon *San José* and the towns of *Here-*

*dia* and *Alajuela*, the repair of the road of *Matina*, for which there shall be opened a new subscription, in separate lists, which shall be delivered to Don Manuel María Peralta, so that he may proceed to receive from each individual what he has promised, and the whole shall be delivered to the *Alguacil Mayor*, Don Pedro Carazo, who is appointed by this Board as Treasurer, in order that under his direction the necessary expenses be made, paying the men, providing for the provisions and supplies, which should be made up of corn biscuit, meat, sugar and cacao, for the maintenance of the necessary men, and wages being paid at the rate of a real and a half in silver and food; and the Foreman, who shall be Hilario or Zúñiga, appointed by this Board, shall receive four reales daily, the Treasurer providing the tools necessary for the purpose; therefore all the expenses which are incurred for this purpose are hereby approved.

With which this Board adjourned and they signed with me those present:

For the Governor, on account of illness,

RAMÓN XIMÉNEZ.

FÉLIX DE JESÚS GARCÍA.

MIGUEL DE BONILLA.

(There follows a signature which cannot be deciphered.)

PEDRO JOSÉ CARAZO.

JUAN JOSÉ DE BONILLA.

JOSEF ANTONIO GARCÍA.

JUAN GUTIÉRREZ.

JOSÉ STOS. LOMBARDO.

MANL. GARCÍA ESCALANTE.

JOAQN. OREAMUNO.

MIQUEL ANGEL NÚÑEZ DEL ARCO.

MANUEL MARÍA DE PERALTA.

JOAQUÍN CARAZO.

As on account of the illness with which I am suffering I am not able, as I would like, to preside at the Boards which are being formed for this purpose in the city of *San José* and towns of *Heredia* and *Alajuela*, I authorize to act therefor in my place the Captain of Cavalry and provisional subdelegate of the Royal Treasury, Don José Santos Lombardo, who associated with the

*Alcaldes Ordinarios* of that city and the towns will proceed in the matter with full effect, in order that thus success may be achieved and the important end promptly attained to which are directed the wise and benevolent intentions of the Most Excellent Sr. Captain General, to whom due report must be made, as he has directed, and let there be effective action in this matter of the contribution by this city and its suburbs; and for this which I provide I thus command it, Don Juan de Dios de Ayala, Lieut. Col. of the Rl. Forces, Political and Military Governor for H. M. of this Province, in *Cartago*, the 11th day of the month of January, 1819 years.

With witness, for lack of a notary, on this paper there being none official of the corresponding period; which I certify.

On account of illness, by order of the Sr. Governor.

RAMÓN XIMÉNEZ.

JOAQUÍN CARAZO.

IGNACIO LLORENTE.

In obedience to the mandate of the Sr. Gov. of this Province, and accepting the commission which he has been pleased to confer upon me, I went to the city of *San José* and the towns of *Heredia* and *Alajuela*, for the purpose aforesaid, to which end there was sent an official communication to the *Alcaldes* thereof, in order that respectively on the 16th and 18th and 19th days of the present month the Boards may meet which are to act in the said city and towns, and that the corresponding notice be given in each one.

And for this which I provide, I thus command, and I sign Don José Santos Lombardo, Captain of Cav., provisional sub-delegate of the Royal Treasury and in charge of this matter. Made in *Cartago*, January 11, 1819.

With witness for lack of a notary:

JOSÉ STOS. LOMBARDO.

On the same day the foregoing official communications were sent.



Legal Proceedings Against Six Men Who Arrived to the Port of Matina. Doc. 490

1819-1822.<sup>1</sup>

Despatch from the Sergeant Commander of *Matina*:

On the 18th instant a vessel was anchored, to take water off the Port, and at the very hour that I heard of it I went down to the entrance and there I found the men already on the shore. They told me that they had lost the vessel and I went where it was to satisfy myself as to the cargo it brought; and the cargo it brought was 65 *fanegas* of maize, 115 *arrobas* (a measure of 25 pounds) of meat, 65 small jars of lard, 4 dozen boards, 6 dozen hats, 50 mats, 6 *arrobas* of cheese; and of these there were rescued 20 jars of lard and some hats, 8 mats, 2 old guns and three cheeses.

These men had been prisoners on other vessels: one was called Juan González, another Francisco Acosta, another Francisco Martínez, another Juan Bautista Mercao, another Juan Bautista Hernández, and the other is an Englishman. They had been prisoners in *Providencia*; they were shipped in the corsair and while cruising on the coast of *Cartagena* the Corsair captured a vessel that was called the Schooner "Mariana," to which were transshipped five men and a prisoner, and sent to *Providencia*; and as they were old prisoners they took counsel with each other if they would like to go to a Spanish port. All with one voice said, "Yes," and looking for *San Juan de Nicaragua*, not being pilots they had gone astray, immediately. I passed them to the Camp but did not forward them immediately because two were sick, and I sent with a soldier those that left on the 25th instant, with two passengers and with cargoes together with the soldier that accompanies them until they are presented to Your Honor.

I have received the official communication of Your Honor dated the 1st instant, telling me that I had not made a report of the canoes that had arrived at this port. Your Honor may see and read the communication of October 10, which gives a report of 12 canoes of negroes, *Brufleños* (from *Bluefields*) who

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<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Historical Section. Bundle XLVI. No. 1441.

arrived at this port, and a pirogue which arrived at *Moín* when I went there it had already left, and two vessels which arrived and anchored at the same time I arrived there went away as I told them that no trade would be permitted. After that no other embarcation came in, except only this one that was lost, and I could not report it to Your Honor without satisfying myself who the men are and what they brought.

The Señor Royal official has forwarded to me four loads of sugar and cheese and soap, beside another load of sugar that came all broken open and a package of meat to be presented to the *Moscós*; and I took charge of it as there was no other justice, now that he came it will be turned over to him. Your Honor will let me know if another can be sent.

The soldier sent with the lists did not come and I have had much difficulty in complying with the orders.

The Sr. Adjutant has asked for the *machetes* and guns which were here.

*Matina*, October 23, 1819.

PABLO CALDERÓN.

To the Sr. Military Governor,  
Don Manuel de Cañas.

The above is a copy of what was received almost illegible by this Government from the Sergeant Commander of the Detachment of *Matina*.

San José, November 2, 1819: which I certify.

JUAN MANUEL DE CAÑAS.

Don Juan Manuel de Cañas, Truxillo, Sánchez de Madrid, García de Pastrana y Bacaró, Colonel of Infantry of the Royal Army, Military Governor of this Province of *Costa Rica*, Chief Subinspector and Commander therein, Veteran of the Fourth Brigade of this Kingdom of *Guatemala*:

Whereas, the Sergeant Comandante of *Matina*, Pablo Calderón, has made a report of a small vessel having been wrecked at the entrance to that port, and of having saved six men of those which were wrecked, who were forwarded to this Govern-

ment; and they having arrived here on the 3rd of the present month and kept safely in the jail, I provided that they should be helped with one *real* per day for each one for his needful maintenance, at the charge of the Royal Treasury, and that after being recorded and the papers that might be found had been carefully inspected I should proceed to prepare the proper indictment, in order to ascertain with what passport they were sailing, from what port they departed, to what port they were going, what cargo they carried and whatever else might be desirable, for all of which it being necessary to appoint a Clerk to act in that matter, I ought to appoint and I do appoint the 1st veteran sergeant of the Provincial Battalion, José Reyes Quesada; who being present takes the oath and promises to faithfully discharge this duty, keeping secrecy; and in order that it may be recorded he signed it with me, in this city of *San José*, on the 8th day of the month of November, 1819 years, which I certify.

JUAN MANUEL DE CAÑAS.  
JOSÉ REYES QUESADA.

On the same day, month and year, the Sr. Military Governor of this Province, Don Juan Manuel de Cañas directed that there should be added to this a copy of the papers which were forwarded by this mail to the Most Excellent Señor Captain-General of the Kingdom, and the report which was left in this office of the Secretary which was made by the Sergeant Commander of the Detachment of *Matina* and the others necessary.

And one of the six who were taken being of the English Nation and not understanding our language at all, he was brought before Felipe Romero, a resident of *Cartago*, who is said to understand the English language, in order that he might serve as an interpreter at the time of taking his declaration.

And for this which he provided, His Excellency commanded it and signed it, before me, which I certify.

Before me:

CAÑAS.  
JOSÉ REYES QUESADA.

It having been desired by this *Comandancia General*, the 5th of this month, that the passport which was produced by the Englishman who was shipwrecked, might be translated from French

into Spanish, so that the original might be forwarded to the higher authorities, it was verified by the Licenciado Don Rafael Barroeta in the following terms:

"United States of *Buenos Ayres* and *Chile*.

"I, the undersigned, Captain of the Schooner of *Buenos Ayres*, Isabela, certify that the Schooner *Varianza* of *Cartagena* was captured by me at three leagues of longitude from Cape *San Blas*, going to *Portobelo* loaded with provisions.

"This Schooner has received directions to go directly to *Santa Catalina*, under the command of Thomas Copen, having for crew those named.

"On board the Schooner Isabela, the 21st of September, 1819.

GEORGE THOMAS (alias) *Torradito*, Captain.

JOSÉ MANUEL, Clerk.

"The other signature I do not understand.

BARROETA."

Which copy is legal, with the translation, and that it might be recorded His Ex. signed it, before me, which I certify.

CAÑAS.

Before me:

JOSÉ REYES QUESADA.

Communication was sent to the Captain of the Army, temporary *Comandante de Armas*, Don Juan Dengo, for Felipe Romero, and that it might be recorded I sign it.

QUESADA.

In the record that was made there was found on the Englishman the following articles: a *votante*, a compass and a map of the coast very badly damaged, and on one Juan another compass and a spy-glass, which are in this *Comandancia*; and that it may be recorded I signed it with Your Honor on the same day, month and year, which I certify, I, the said Clerk.

Also there are found some papers, which are forwarded to the Super.

CAÑAS.

I certify:

JOSÉ REYES QUESADA.

In the city of *San José*, on the 9th day of the month of November, 1819, there being present Felipe Romero who had been appointed by His Hon. as interpreter to take the declaration of the shipwrecked Englishman, before me the present Clerk, the Sr. Military Gov. of this Province took his oath in due form and according to law, by which he undertook to faithfully and legally discharge the duty of interpreter, according to the best of his knowledge and ability, and that it might appear it was recorded and it was signed by the said Señor, with the interpreter, before me: which I certify.

JUAN MANUEL DE CAÑAS.  
FELIPE ROMERO.

On the same day, month and year, the Sr. Don Juan Manuel de Cañas, Military Governor of this Province and Colonel of the Royal Army having before him a man who was entirely ignorant of Spanish and only understood English, therefore through the medium of the interpreter Felipe Romero he asked him what religion he professed; and the interpreter stated that he said that it was the Roman, in virtue of which the Sr. Gov. administered to him the proper oath upon the sign of the cross, under which he promised to tell the truth as to what he should be interrogated; and being asked what his name was he replied that he was called Henry Cooper, that he was of the age of nineteen years, a native of Dol in the island of Great Britain, of the Roman religion and his calling was that of a sailor.

Being asked how or why he had come to this city; he said through the interpreter, that he left his land for *Providencia* to sell their provisions; that from *Providencia* he sailed for *Cartagena* and *Portobelo*, with provisions, and having observed that the sea was very rough, fearful that there might be enemies there and not carrying but one small cannon he determined to go to *San Juan de Nicaragua*; that having arrived at this destination they cast anchor not knowing if that was the destination they were seeking, that it was in the night and they took water by means of a canoe of some *Moscós* Indians who took two *pesos* for three barrels of water, and having set sail in place of coming in sight of *San Juan* they came in sight of *Matina* and at three miles they were tacking off and on for eight or nine days, until

they recognized that it was not the port they were looking for, but was that of *Matina*; but as they were getting short of water he determined to go to it and anchored in the night, and by the morning they had grounded on a sandbank, doubtless carried by the swell; that the cannon which he spoke of was not carried by the little vessel that was wrecked by the *Isabela*, for the little vessel which was wrecked only carried four muskets, five or six *machetes*, two extra pounds of powder in cartridges and six or eight pounds of munitions; that the cargo was maize, meat, two pigs, some jars of lard and six cheeses, two dozen hats and some mats: and that they also carried two compasses and a long distance spy-glass; that as soon as they saw that they were wrecked he proceeded with the sailors until they came to the river where they shouted and soon there came a canoe with two men and took them to a house where there was a cocoanut tree; that he gives this indication because he does not know the name of the men or of the place; that these men collected a part of the cargo which was wrecked, as much as they could, and having been four days in the house of the cocoanut tree they were taken where they arrived after twelve days on the way.

Being asked how many men the little vessel which was wrecked carried as crew and how they were called, he said: there were five and he was the sixth, one was named Juan Bautista, another Juan, another Francisco, who was a prisoner, another Francisco and another they called Portorrico as he does not know where they are from and they are now in this city.

Being asked where he took these sailors, he said, that he took four of them in the Port of *Providencia*, who were given to him by the Captain who despatched the deponent, who was called Diego but he does not know his other name, and the other is one of the Franciscos who was a sailor of the same little vessel that was wrecked.

Asked how it was that he sailed from *Providencia* when the passport which he had presented is from the *United States of Buenos Aircs* and *Chile*, he said that he arrived there on purpose to take a commission from the General of the Insurgents, who was called Aury.

Asked how it is that he states that he came to *Cartagena* and *Portobelo* when the passport is directly to *Santa Catalina*, he said,

that having departed from *Buenos Aires* bound for *Santa Catalina* a Spanish Sailor lost the direction and getting short of water they looked for a Spanish port and this was the reason the vessel was lost.

Being asked how the vessel's Captain was called that gave him the passport, he said, that he was called Diego and the vessel Isabel.

Asked what the vessel was called which was wrecked, he said, that it was called Mariana.

Asked how many of the sailors that he carried were Insurgents and how many were Royalists, he said that they were neither Insurgents nor were they Royalists, that being in great need in *Providencia* they agreed to go to sea in the little vessel under the condition of sharing in the distribution of the prizes that might be made, and it was between them; that if the prize was English with a Spanish passport it was all right, and Spanish with an English passport for the cargo, the cargo would be taken from them and the vessel given to them.

Asked if Spaniards and Creoles who were carried in his vessel came under the condition he had mentioned, he said they did.

Asked where was the license that he took out in *Providencia* to navigate, he said that the Captain of the *Isabela* kept it and delivered to him the passport which he had produced.

Asked how it is that the passport is signed by George Thomas, he said that this George Thomas is the second Captain of the *Isabela*, and José Manuel the Clerk, and the signature which is not understood must be some Frenchman, for they were all of that Nation with the exception of José Manuel, who was the Clerk.

Asked if when they made prisoner the Schooner Mariana he went in it, he said, that then he, the deponent, was on board of the *Isabela*.

Asked in what latitude they captured the Mariana he said, that it was in front of *San Blas del Norte*.

Asked how it is that he says that he sailed from *Providencia* where he was going in the Schooner *Isabela* on a cruise, he said that being in *Providencia* they shipped him in the *Isabela* and he went to *Buenos Aires*, where he went cruising in the *Isabela*.

And although he was asked other questions and was reinterrogated, to none of them did he answer further than he had done; and this declaration having been read to the interpreter word by word, and the interpreter repeating it one by one to the deponent and having listened to it carefully he said that what had been read to him word by word was the same that he had declared, and that he had nothing to add or to take away, which he affirmed and ratified on the cross as he had done; and the said Sr. Gov. signed it with the deponent and the interpreter, before me, the present Clerk, which I certify.

JUAN MANUEL DE CAÑAS.

FELIPE ROMERO, Interpreter.

HENRY COOPER.

Before me: JOSÉ REYES QUESADA.

In the said city, on the 10th day of the month of November, 1819, the Sr. Military Gov. and *Comandante General de las Armas*, Don Juan Manuel de Cañas, caused to appear a man who was sworn before me the present Clerk and he took the oath in due form and according to law, by which he promised to tell the truth as to what he knew and should be interrogated; and this being done that he should state his name, age, country, religion and business or occupation, and he said, that he was called Juan González, that his age is 43 years, that his country is the city of Zaragoza, his religion is the Apostolic Roman Catholic, his occupation-a sailor.

Being asked for what reasons he is in this city, being a sailor, he said, that having been discharged from the Royal Marine as unserviceable by the Sr. Commander Don José María Chacón, as shown by the two discharges which he produced the day that he arrived in this city, he occupied himself in the meantime until he could go to Europe in sailing to *Puerto Cabello*, which was where his discharge was given to him, and that having fallen into the hands of the Insurgents he was taken to the Island of *Providencia*, where he exhausted his means to get away and not having succeeded he took a share in the Schooner *Isabela* to cruise on the coast to *Cartagena*, where the Schooner *Mariana*



of *Cartagena* was captured, loaded with maize, meat, boards, lard and cheese and some fowls; that having been transshipped by order of the Captain of the *Isabela*, under the orders of an Englishman named Enrique (Henry), they were bound for *Providencia*; but that the water running short the Englishman determined to stop on the coast of the Indians, to which the deponent was opposed, and the other sailors, who were four and he five, and they decided to seek the mouth of the River *S. Juan de Nicaragua*; and having opposed the Englishman the deponent took the rudder out of his hand, and said: There is here no other Captain than myself, and he arrived at the coast, to see if it was the mouth of said River, and having made out the mouth of the River, he said to the companions: Boys, we are going to see if that is the River; and in fact they found it was and they provided themselves with water, and they made sail to find a Spanish port where they might take refuge; but the wind and the swell threw them upon the land and they grounded in six *palmos* (handbreadths, of eight inches) of water; that seeing that they were lost they embarked in the boat and came to the shore; and after having gone three or four leagues they arrived at the mouth of the River *Matina*, where having shouted there came a canoe from the Guard to their assistance; and finding themselves in this situation he took 15 pesos from the Englishman which the Captain of the *Isabela* had given to him, in order that he might support them, and with this he paid for provisions and the transportation of what they could save from the wreck, which was 23 jars of lard, 2 cheeses, one box of candles, all of which were carried to the Camp and there delivered to the Sergt. Commander, who in five days forwarded them all to this city.

Asked how, having served the King so many years and being a native of the invincible Zaragoza, he took a part in an Insurgent vessel, he said, that no one in *Providencia* asked him whether he was willing to go in the vessel but if he did not do it quickly they would punish him and they made him do it.

Asked how it was that he sailed from *Providencia* when the passport is from *Buenos Aires*, he said, that in *Providencia* there is a General of *Buenos Ayres* who gives passports with the title of *Buenos Ayres*, and even as far as the same *Providencia* uses the flag.

Asked how long it was since he was taken prisoner, he said that it was at the last of July of this year, when he went in a vessel from *La Guaira*, called *La Teresa*.

Asked for what destination the Schooner *Mariana* carried the provisions which were wrecked, he said that it was for *Providencia*. Reminded that as he so states that the passport says that it was for the Island of *Catalina*, he responded that it is all one, the Island of *Providencia* and *Catalina*.

Asked what arms the *Mariana* had, he said there was one pistol, two old muskets and three unserviceable *machetes*, which is what he took charge of when he assumed command that he took away from the Englishman, with the purpose of looking for a Spanish port;—and although he was asked many other questions and repeatedly, he said that he did not know any more than the sailor Francisco, a native of New Barcelona, because he did not want to make the voyage they took him to the *Isabela* and gave him 25 lashes on a cannon and they made him go and embark on the Schooner *Mariana*.

And his declaration having been read to him he said that it was the same that he had stated, but he said that on the 15 pesos which he took from the Englishman he gave back 6 which were left over; that as to the rest he had nothing to add, nor to take away, but he affirmed and ratified it under the oath that he had taken. He did not sign it, not knowing how, but he made the sign of the cross and the Sr. Governor signed it, before me: which I certify.

JUAN MANUEL DE CAÑAS.

Before me: José Reyes Quesada.

(Then follow the declarations of Francisco Martínez, Juan Bautista Mercado, Francisco Acosta and Juan Bautista Hernández; and the document continues with the principal papers following:)

In view of this investigation being concluded and it being necessary for the deponents to ratify the same to give to it full effect, and most of them being under 25 years, let them be advised to appoint some one to defend them, who shall be to their satisfaction, in order that the said ratifications may be presented;

let the official communication be sent to the Military Commander *at interim* of *Cartago*, Don Juan Dengo, in order that he may have Felipe Romero appear in this tribunal as interpreter of the English language, on Monday the 15th, in the morning; so orders and signs the Sr. Don Juan Manuel de Cañas, military Governor of this Province, on the 12th day of the month of November, 1819, before me, the present Clerk, which I certify.

CAÑAS.

Before me: José Reyes Quesada.

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In the city of *S. José*, on the 13th day of the month of February, 1819, the Sr. Military Governor and Commander General:

Having present the six sailors shipwrecked at the mouth of the River *Matina* who have deposed in these proceedings and the foregoing documents having been brought to their knowledge, and being advised of their statement that they do not know any person in this city, except the Sr. Capt. of Cavalry, Don Félix Bonilla, the latter having devoted himself to their service and to caring for their infirmities, they appointed him and do appoint him as their defender, and that it may be recorded, not knowing how to write they make the sign of the cross, and it was signed by the said Señor, before me, the present Clerk; which I certify.

CAÑAS.

HENRY COOPER.

Before me: José Reyes Quesada.

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The condition of these proceedings being noted, the papers are forwarded to His Excellency the Captain-General in this Kingdom, Don Carlos de Urrutia, for his superior determination. Let the official communication be sent to the Sergt. Commander of *Matina* in order that he may forward to this Tribunal the formal inventory which was requested of him on the 31st of October and the 6th of this month, of all that was recovered and which he was able to save from the little vessel which was wrecked at the mouth of the River *Matina*; and this which he provided he ordered and signed, the Señor Don Juan Manuel de Cañas, Colonel of Infantry of the Royal Army, and Military Governor

and *Comandante General de las Armas* of this Province, in S. José de Costa Rica, on the 16th day of the month of November, 1819, before me the present Clerk; which I certify.

JUAN MANUEL DE CAÑAS.

Before me: José Reyes Quesada.

The official communication which was directed was forwarded to the Commander of *Matina*.

QUESADA.

Señor Colonel of the Army and *Com. Gen. de las Armas*:

The Captain of Cav. and defender appointed by the six shipwrecked persons who are imprisoned in the cells of the jail in this city, without communication, with due consideration submits to Your Honor that three of them are quite ill, afflicted with fevers and other troubles, which are from day to day increasing with unfavorable symptoms, for which they are in need of suitable care in the deplorable misery into which they have fallen, kept together in a narrow room, where they are necessarily infecting the air more and more which they breathe, to the progressive detriment of their bad health; and it being hoped that pure air and more freedom would very greatly contribute to their restoration and as regards the conclusion of their declarations in which they are confirmatory witnesses.

Your Honor is petitioned to open up to all of the six shipwrecked persons the large hall of the Jail or all of it, in order to be able to provide them with the conveniences possible and preparation of medicines and other necessary aids in the lamentable situation of these unfortunates, that in this they may receive mercy and justice, which is implored as being within the exercise of Your Honor.

FÉLIX DE BONILLA.

*San José de Costa Rica*, Nov. 16, 1819.

With the original proceedings, this petition is referred to the Sr. Licentiate Don Rafael Barroeta, in order that he may provide in this matter what he deems just. So he provided and commanded and signed, the Sr. Gov. and Commander General of

this Province, Don Juan Manuel de Cañas, Colonel of Infantry of the Royal Army, Chief Sub-inspector and Veteran Commander of the Fourth Brigade of this Kingdom: Before me, which I certify:

CAÑAS.

Before me: José Reyes Quesada.

Sr. Colonel and Commander General.

The consulting *Asesor* (legal adviser) has seen this despatch concerning the imprisonment of the six shipwrecked persons, Henry Cooper, Juan González, Francisco Martínez, Juan Bautista Mercado, Francisco Acosta and Juan Bautista Hernández, colored man.

Francisco Martínez cannot be an insurgent, for it appears that he came as sailor in the Schooner *Mariana*, which sailed with provisions from *Cartagena* for *Portobelo* with the necessary licences from the Spanish Government. This Schooner was captured by the Insurgent Schooner of *Buenos Aires*, the *Isabela*, whose Captain transferred the crew of it and manned it with five sailors from the *Isabela* and with Martínez who was whipped because he refused to continue as a sailor in the *Mariana*; and ordered it with provisions to go to the Island of *Sta. Catalina*, alias *Providencia*, under the command of the Englishman, Henry Cooper. This subject is not guilty in any way, and so Your Honor may give him the liberty of the jail in the city and the neighborhood until the Most Excellent Captain General determines as he may deem proper.

All the others say they are prisoners of the Insurgents of *Buenos Aires*, taken in different Spanish vessels in which they sailed, and that they went to serve in the Schooner *Isabela* compelled by punishment or misery. This may be true or not, but be that as it may, being ill it is necessary to alleviate their confinement, so that they may be doctored, and so it seems to me that during the daytime they may be given the liberty of the prison and that they may be shut up at night to prevent their flight: until His Excellency shall determine.

RAFAEL BARROETA.

San José, Nov. 17, 1819.

Further, I say: that to the speaker it seems that a charge ought to be made against the five shipwrecked persons, leaving out Francisco Martínez, of having sailed in an Insurgent privateer, to the injury of Spanish subjects, for although they all assert that they sailed under compulsion and that having the opportunity for freedom they were going to the port of *San Juan*, they took away from Henry Cooper the command of the *Mariana* and endeavored to enter into the port before they were wrecked, Cooper says nothing about this in his declaration, and so it seems to me that Cooper should be examined about this, and if he denies this that he should be confronted with the sailors.

BARROETA.

Dated *ut supra*:

In view of the opinion of the Sr. Licentiate, Don Rafael Barroeta, the Sr. Gov. and Com. Gen., Don Juan Manuel de Cañas says that it shall be so carried out as to the principal part thereof, and thereupon as he ought to command and he did command that the Englishman Cooper and the sailors Juan González, Juan Bautista Mercado, Francisco Acosta and Juan Bautista Hernández, be given the liberty of the hall of the Jail, in view of the ills which they suffer; and as to Francisco Martínez that he be given the city as his jail, under the special condition that he must present himself in the Guardhouse of the Jail in the morning, at mid-day and at night, where he ought to sleep.

Let their Defender, Capt. Don Félix Bonilla, be advised of this for them, with the clear understanding that it is for the present and until the superior determination of His Excellency Señor Cap. Gen. and notifying them that at the least ground that they give for it they will be put back into the narrow cell in which they were; and as for the other part of the opinion, let an official communication be sent to the Interpreter, Felipe Romero, so that the charges may be made against each one as the legal adviser states.

The imprisonment in the hall of the Jail should be understood as confined to that and no more, and in no way extended to the corridor, and at night they should be locked up in the same cell after the angelus; and for this which he provided, he commanded

and he signed, the said Señor Military Governor in *San José*, on the 16th day of the month of November, 1819, before me the present Clerk; which I certify:

JUAN MANUEL DE CAÑAS.

Before me: José Reyes Quesada.

At the same moment, I the Clerk, advised the Señor Capt. Don Félix de Bonilla of the foregoing action and being advised thereof the stated that he understood it and signed with me.

BONILLA.

QUESADA.

In the city of *San José*, on the 19th day of the month of November, 1819, the Señor Military Governor of this Province, Don Juan Manuel de Cañas, for the purpose of correcting the error and defect which the legal adviser notes in the addition to the foregoing opinion, of not having asked the Englishman, Henry Cooper if the sailors took away from him the command, and if these latter sailed under compulsion, the Interpreter Felipe Romero being present, caused the Englishman Henry Cooper to appear and before me, the present Clerk, he took the oath, which he made before God, Our Lord, upon a sign of his Holy Cross, by which he promised to tell the truth as to what he knew and should be interrogated; and this being done in the tenor of the addition to the opinion, he said, that he is sure that at least three miles from *San Juan de Nicaragua* the European sailor Juan González said to him: *Here there is no more Captain, no more Comandante than I*: that although the other sailors did not so state it explicitly, they gave him to sufficiently understand it, for which reason and because Juan González threatened to throw him into the water, he was left in the vessel in the character of a sailor, and because he said that González drew out a knife and threatened him, saying to him that he would cut out his guts; that the other sailors and the deponent were not compelled in *Providencia* but the great distress in which they were obliged them to embark in the *Isabela*:—and having read this declaration to him and it being repeated to him in English by the Interpreter in the presence of the Official Defender, he said that it was the same that he had stated, that he had nothing to add or

take away and that it was affirmed and ratified by him under his oath away and that it was affirmed and ratified by him under his ernor, Interpreter and the Señor Official Defender, before me the present Clerk; which I certify.

JUAN MANUEL DE CAÑAS.

HENRY COOPER.

FÉLIX DE BONILLA.

FELIPE ROMERO.

Before me: José Reyes Quesada.

In the city of *San José*, on the 27th day of the month of November, 1819, the Señor Juan Manuel de Cañas, Military Governor of this Province, with the addition to the opinion of the Licentiate Don Rafael Barroeta, which had been finished, these proceedings were forwarded to His Ex. Señor Capt. Gen. of the Kingdom according and as it is commanded by the document of the 16th of this month, for his superior determination, which direction was commanded and signed by the said Governor in *San José*, before me the present Clerk: which I certify.

CAÑAS.

Before me: José Reyes Quesada.

These proceedings were forwarded by post as directed.

QUESADA.

Don José Ramón Zelaya, Deputy Clerk of the Chamber of the Intendancy and Captaincy-General of the Province of *Guatemala*, certifies: that in the inquest held to take the testimony of the six sailors who were shipwrecked in a little vessel at the mouth of the River *Matina*, which was sent to this Captaincy General by the Señor Military Governor of the Province of *Costa Rica*, with official communication of November 30, 1819; their maintenance is provided for in accord with the Señor Auditor of War, in this writ.

Palace of *Guatemala*, April 12, 1822.

Whereas: all of these provinces being already independent of the Spanish Government, and it being proper that all those who were captured on account of insurrection should be placed at



liberty, let this case be sent back to the *Comandancia* which forwarded it, so that steps be taken to stop the proceedings against those under process therein, unless there shall be some other charge than that of insurrection: and in case of having committed any other offense the same *Comandancia* shall proceed under its authority.

GAÍNZA.

VALLE.

JOSÉ RAMÓN ZELAYA.

And in order that it may be reported, I submit the present in order that it may be added to the proceedings mentioned, which in compliance with the order shall be returned to the Sr. Military Governor of *Costa Rica*.

*Guatemala*, April 16, 1822.

JOSÉ RAMÓN ZELAYA.

# **The Minister of the Treasury of the Central American Federation to the General Manager of Excises. Doc. 491**

GUATEMALA, November 16, 1824.<sup>1</sup>

Ministry of War, Marine and the Treasury.

Department of the Treasury.

No. 105.

To the General Manager of Excises:

Under date of the 11th instant it was declared that Art. 19 of the Customs Regulations required the Administrations of the Ports to forward to the General Office the manifests or the original registers; and that this provision not being complied with, the lack of these documents not only occasioned confusion in the despatch of goods but was a source of trouble in the settlement of duties arising from the temporary tariff and the increase of the new impost.

For this reason the Supreme Government has seen fit to resolve that the Commanders or the sub-delegates of the Treasury at the Ports take especial care upon their own responsibility that the Administrators and Collectors of Customs Duties at such

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<sup>1</sup> Archives of the Department of Foreign Relations of Costa Rica. Year 1824.

Ports forward the registers or manifests of cargos which are imported or exported, in the manner provided. This is communicated to you for its execution as to that wherein you may be concerned.

God, Union and Liberty: *Guatemala*, November 16, 1824.

FRANCO. GÓMEZ DE ARGUELLO.

**Doc. 492** Don Pablo Alvarado, Deputy to the Federal Congress, to the Chief of the State of Costa Rica.

GUATEMALA, September 7, 1825.<sup>1</sup>

To the Supreme Chief of *Costa Rica*:

CITIZEN JUAN MORA:

I desire to suggest to the Federal Congress the recognition as a National Debt of more than 720,000 pesos, paid by your province to the King of Spain for work done on the *Matina* road, during the past centuries, under that notorious contract the Costarican Government made with that of Spain.

Will you be good enough to forward to me, as early as practicable, a statement of such contributions in detail or provincial impost, with an account showing how many thousands were contributed upon the date of independence of your State from the aforesaid government, for I think that by the use of it I may be able to prepare a petition and save your State as large a sum for future expenses as may have been heretofore paid out. There should be no delay about this, as this Congress will adjourn within two months. I trust you will take it up before anything else and advise me of the result.

I received the answer to my letter of July 7th. I will give due advice of the result.

God, Union and Liberty: *Guatemala*, September 7, 1825.

PABLO ALVARADO

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<sup>1</sup> Archives of the Department of Foreign Relations of Costa Rica. Year 1825.

## Decree LXXXVI.

Doc. 493

SAN JOSÉ, April 4, 1826.<sup>1</sup>

The Supreme Chief of the Free State of *Costa Rica*:

Whereas, the Assembly has decreed and the Council approved the following:

"The Constitutional Assembly of the Free State of *Costa Rica*:

"Considering, how important it is for the State to encourage the traffic to the Valley of *Matina*, to develop its settlement and especially to extend the cultivation of its lands with cacao, which has always been grown to advantage;

"Has decided to and does decree:

"Art. 1. To freely open to every man and woman the right to trade and reside in the Valley of *Matina*, without any one being hindered under any pretext whatever.

"Art. 2. The political government will at once make provision for the choosing and for the establishment there of a municipal government, composed of an *Alcalde*, a *Regidor* and a *Procurador* (attorney), having the same duties and attributes as those in other settlements.

"Art. 3. Also, upon the proper ecclesiastical license being obtained, the construction shall be arranged for by the alms of the faithful of a building suitable for a *ermita* (building for religious purposes), from whence spiritual help may be furnished to the inhabitants within a circuit of a half league on each side upon national lands intended for settlement, where a plot of one *manzana* will be given to any one who may seek to settle and found a home.

"Art. 4. Every married man or family that comes to reside in the new settlement of *Matina* will receive from its municipal government, in addition to the plot above mentioned, five *manzanas* of land in fee, wherever it is desired to begin work.

"Art. 5. Any man or woman who commits an offense that is deserving of banishment under the Law, shall be

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<sup>1</sup> Collection of Laws of Costa Rica. Year 1826.

sent to *Matina* and handed over to its municipal government, which shall look after the permanent residence and the occupation or employment of such person.

"Art. 6. The consort or family who may accompany such banished person, although not embraced in the penalty, and make a settlement there, shall acquire for themselves the properties mentioned in the two preceding Articles.

"Art. 7. Any proprietor who devotes himself to the establishment of a cattle ranch of any kind in *Matina* or in the uninhabited mountain region on the way, shall acquire a right to have the ownership of such locations.

"Art. 8. The old cacao plantations which may have some assessed value and have not been absolutely abandoned by their owners, shall not be levied upon in excess of their present value, even if they are thereafter improved.

"Art. 9. Those entirely abandoned by their owners are free from all assessments that were levied upon them and their owners may recognise and cultivate them anew under this guaranty, but unless they shall do so within one year the municipal government may allot them to any one else who is willing to take them, and in such case no right whatever shall be left therein in favor of the old owners, nor in the assessors to charge them.

"Art. 10. In order to classify them as such and to dispose of them, the municipal government after preparing a list thereof will serve official notice upon their owners within the year to decide whether they will reassume and cultivate them; and if they shall not do so, or after an inquest showing such abandonment where the owners are unknown, they may be allotted to others, after the expiration of one year.

"Art. 11. When the ecclesiastical fees collectable from the new population are deemed by the municipal government to be sufficient, it may undertake the erection of a Parish and the assignment of a Curate who shall attend to it in spiritual matters; but in the mean time the Political

Chief, upon petition of license for preaching, will address their prayers to the ecclesiastical authorities for the appointment of a Chaplain.

"Art. 12. The same municipal government shall prepare the Articles relating to the establishment of its public funds and arbitrations.

"Art. 13. The award of lands granted in the foregoing Articles shall always be given without prejudice to the plantations of cacao or the half league for settlement.

*"To the Representative Council:*

"Given in *San José*, on the twenty-ninth day of the month of March, 1826.

"JOAQUÍN RIVAS, Deputy President.

"PEDRO ZELEDÓN, Deputy Secretary.

"FRANCISCO MARÍA OREAMUNO, Deputy Secretary.

*"Hall of the Council:*

"*San José*, March thirty-first, 1826.

"Let it be sent to the Executive Power:

"JOSÉ RAFAEL DE GALLEGOS, President.

"GREGORIO GUERRERO, Secretary."

Therefore, let it be executed:

JUAN MORA.

San José, April fourth, 1826.

To the Citizen Manuel Aguilar.

### Decree 136.

Doc. 494

SAN JOSÉ, August 25, 1827.<sup>1</sup>

The Supreme Chief of the Free State of *Costa Rica*:

Whereas, the Assembly has passed and the Council has approved the following:

"The Constitutional Assembly of the Free State of *Costa Rica*, desiring so far as possible to provide for the needs of the Valley of *Matina*, and to secure the comfort and safety of travellers, and considering that for such important purposes the latter will cheerfully make some sacrifices,

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*. Year 1827.

"Has decreed and does decree:

"Art. 1. Boats shall be built for ferriage over the rivers *Pacuare* and *Reventazón*, in which the charge shall be one real for each passenger who is a resident, and one-half for transients.

"Art. 2. For cargo the charge will be a half real per *arroba* (weight of 25 lbs.), upon articles produced within the country; and upon foreign goods one real for each *arroba*; but if there are any spirits the charge shall be four reales for each twenty bottles.

"Art. 3. Mules and cattle, carried on board, shall pay, for the former one real, and for the latter four reales.

"Art. 4. Pigs that have been killed shall pay one real; and each head of cattle two.

"Art. 5. These shall first of all be applied to the purposes of the first Article, and the Municipality shall attend carefully to their collection and investment.

*"To the Representative Council:*

"Given in *San José* on the fifth day of the month of August, 1827.

"MANUEL ALVARADO, Deputy President.

"PEDRO ZELEDON, Deputy Secretary.

"BRAULIO CARRILLO, Deputy Secretary.

*"Hall of the Council: .*

San José, August twenty-fourth, 1827.

"Let it be sent to the Executive Power:

"CECILIO UMAÑA, President.

"GREGORIO GUERRERO, Secretary."

Therefore, let it be executed:

San José, August twenty-fifth, 1827.

JUAN MORA.

To the Citizen Joaquín Bernardo Calvo.

## Decree 159.

Doc. 495

SAN JOSÉ, June 16, 1828.<sup>1</sup>

The Supreme Chief of the Free State of *Costa Rica*:

Whereas, the Assembly has passed and the Council has approved the following:

"The Constitutional Assembly of the Free State of *Costa Rica*, desiring to put an end to contraband trade and the frauds which are perpetrated by the introduction of foreign and domestic merchandise without payment of the duties, to the prejudice of the State, and to stop the individuals engaged therein, especially those who come in through *Matina*;

"And considering that the duties from this source hardly amount to enough to establish a guard, as in *Puntarenas*, and that it is absolutely necessary to afford some assistance to other established branches of trade which do not produce very much, out of regard for the welfare of the people;

"Has deemed it proper and does decree:

"Art. 1. To authorize the First *Alcalde* of the Valley of *Matina*, and in his absence the Second, to supervise the commercial shipments which are brought in at that part and forward to the Treasury a list of all of them.

"Art. 2. The said *Alcalde* shall be allowed for his services three percent. of the duties arising therefrom at the Custom House and produced at that port; beside the portion which may go to him in seizures as the apprehender of smuggled goods, and allowed to him by the Decree of the National Constituent Assembly of June 23, 1824.

"Art. 3. All the cargos which are brought into the State shall be presented in the most direct way at the Custom House of their destination, with the proper permit, to which must be attached a detailed invoice of the goods therein contained, with their weight; except packages which shall be registered at the *Garita* (inspection office) in the case of trunks or bundles that may appear suspicious.

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*. Year 1828.

"Art. 4. Consignees or interested parties who violate the foregoing Article shall pay a fine equal to the amount of the duties that must be satisfied, and the Conductor one of twenty-five pesos for each load, for the benefit of the public Treasury of the State.

"Art. 5. The Cashier, with an inspector appointed by him, shall examine the goods in each package, making an appraisement according to the provisions of the most recent Customs tariff.

"Art. 6. The vendors of rural and urban properties, or cattle, mules and horses, shall only pay a tax upon values of fifty pesos inclusive and upwards, transfers being understood in the same way, and an account must be submitted to the Treasury or Deputy of another settlement within fifteen days after the contract is made, and if this is not done double duties shall be paid.

"Art. 7. The interior imposts shall be satisfied within three months at the Treasury or paid to the respective Deputy, the sale not being an immediate one, and the purchaser shall be held responsible if the vendor is in default.

"Art. 8. Let Art. 2 of the Decree of September 13, 1825, be amended.

*"To the Representative Council:*

"Given in San José, on the twenty-fourth day of the month of May, 1828.

"MANUEL ALVARADO, Deputy President.

"VICENTE CASTRO, Deputy Pro-Secretary.

"FÉLIX HIDALGO, Deputy Secretary.

*"Hall of the Council:*

*San José, June 14, 1828.*

"Let it be sent to the Executive Power:

"JOSÉ RAFAEL GALLEAOS, President.

"GREGORIO GUERRERO, Secretary."

Therefore: let it be executed.

*San José, June 16, 1828:*

JUAN MORA.

To the Citizen Joaquín Bernardo Calvo.



## Decree 170.

Doc. 496

SAN JOSÉ, November 4, 1828.<sup>1</sup>

The Supreme Chief of the Free State of *Costa Rica*:

Whereas, the Assembly has passed and the Council has approved the following:

"The Constitutional Assembly of the Free State of *Costa Rica*, desiring the welfare of the people and the prosperity of the State, having in mind the fact that there are within it many and vast areas which are uncultivated and deserted; and that, while these in their present condition are of no value or advantage for the general good, they might if cultivated be made to yield great benefits;

"And being desirous, moreover, of aiding in a movement of so much interest and helping in some way to encourage those who engage in it, by granting to them some parcels of land;

"Has decided to decree and does decree as follows:

"Art. 1. There is granted, for the period of eight years, to those who may cultivate upon the shores on the North, the North-East, the East and South for five consecutive years, the land which they shall cultivate and one *caballeria* (a measure of land) beside; and to those who devote themselves to cultivation or begin within the first two years after the publication of this law one *caballeria* more in addition to the two parcels above mentioned.

"Art. 2. A premium of still another *caballeria* more in addition to what is granted in the preceding Article shall be given to those who engage in the cultivation of cacao or any kind of dye plants.

"Art. 3. Cattle raisers shall also be granted, for the same period of eight years, a location for the establish-

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra.* Year 1828.

ment of twenty-five head up to a thousand, and from a thousand upward; two locations for five years continuous occupation; and those who take possession during the first two years shall have three *caballerías* more.

“Art. 4. The privilege allowed by Decree of July 14, 1825, is extended to all the products of the establishments referred to.

“Art. 5. Every one purposing to engage in such an enterprise who asks for measurements shall be given them in accordance with the Decree of May 27th last; and if this is done during the first two years after the publication of this law, they shall have the privilege of having it done for them by a commissioner appointed by the party interested and sworn by the Intendant, and office fees will be allowed free, including those for the title, when it is desirable.

“Art. 6. The parcels in the North, North-east, shall be granted by the route explored by the city of *Alajuela* from the neighborhood of *Fraijanes* island to the River *San Juan*; by the route explored in *San José*, from the neighborhood of the River *Blanco* and *Santa Rosa* to the banks of the same *San Juan* and the Atlantic; by the route in the direction of *Cot* from the neighborhood of the River *Pescado* to the Volcano of *Turrialba*; by the known roads of *Matina*, from the River *Turrialba* and districts of *Tucurrique* forward; and by the frontiers of *Colombia*, from the beginning of the mountain region of *Santa Clara* to the boundary, keeping for the present as the line of demarcation that which is formed from one of the points cited to the other;—and in the South in those cases which may come up the Government shall indicate approximately the demarcation for the parcels of land that are granted between those of *Portalón* and the River *Naranjo*, those that run above the coast of *Las Mantas* between the mouths of the large rivers of the interior and *Candelaria*, and the peninsula of *Nicoya* or Cape *Blanco*, mouths of

the River *Alvarado*, between the Gulf and the neighborhood of *Barco-Quebrado*.

*"To the Representative Council:*

"Given in *San José* on the twenty-ninth day of the month of October, 1828.

"FÉLIX HIDALGO, Deputy Vice President.

"JOSÉ ANTONIO CASTRO, Deputy Secretary.

"PEDRO DOBLES, Pro-Secretary.

*"Hall of the Council:*

"San José, November 3, 1828.

"Let it be sent to the Executive:

"JOSÉ RAFAEL DE GALLEGOS, President.

"GREGORIO GUERRERO, Secretary."

Therefore, let it be executed:

*San José*, November 4, 1828:

JUAN MORA.

To the Citizen Joaquín Bernardo Calvo.

The Federal Secretary of the Department of War to the Chief of the State of Costa Rica. **Doc. 497**

GUATEMALA, July 22, 1831.<sup>1</sup>

Secretaryship of State and of the Department of War and Marine.

Palace of the Federal Government.

Guatemala, July 22, 1831.

To the Chief of the State of *Costa Rica*:

The President of the Republic has taken under consideration your esteemed letter and the statement accompanying it, concerning the assignment of the *Comandancia* (office of the Commander) of the Port of *Matina* to the Sergeant Major, C. Rafael Escalante.

As the assignment of such places depends upon the selection the Senate must make under the Constitution, the President

<sup>1</sup> Archives of the Department of Foreign Relations of Costa Rica. Year 1831.

aforesaid has deemed it proper to forward the matter to that high body, that it may be before it when the assignment is made.

I have the honor to make this response to the note mentioned.

D. U. L. (God, Union and Liberty) :

SALAZAR.

**Doc. 498 The Federal Minister of the Treasury to the Chief of the State of Costa Rica.**

GUATEMALA, January 27, 1832.<sup>1</sup>

Ministry of the Treasury.

To the Chief of the State of *Costa Rica*:

By the copy you were good enough to forward to this Ministry my Government has been informed of the Resolution which you prepared and issued on December 16th last, that the Citizen Alexander Escalante, appointed by the National Executive as Administrator of the Maritime Customs of *Matina*, should resume his duties.

I have been directed to make this response to you by my Government and in doing repeat my assurances of esteem.

D. U. L. (God, Union and Liberty).

National Palace in Guatemala, January 27, 1832.

VALENZUELA.

**Doc. 499 The Federal Minister of the Treasury to the Chief of the State of Costa Rica.**

GUATEMALA, May 19, 1832.<sup>1</sup>

Ministry of the Treasury.

To the Citizen Chief of State of *Costa Rica*:

My Government had previously issued its orders to the Intendancy that provision be made for establishing at the Port of *Matina* the Custom House that ought to be there; and in view of what you have stated as to the matter in your esteemed note of the 18th ultimo, I determined that the Intendancy repeat the orders for such purpose, so that the transfer of the Custom

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra.* Year 1832.

<sup>1</sup> *Supra.*

House of *Matina* might be made to the Port of that name, notifying the officials that if they did not attend to it immediately proceedings would be taken against them for all the results thereof.

My Government directs me to make this response to your note referred to and to thank you in its name, as I now do, for the zeal and attention you have given to the National Treasury.

I take advantage of this opportunity, Citizen Chief, to again assure you of my appreciation.

D. U. L. (God, Union and Liberty).

National Palace, *Guatemala*, May 19, 1832.

VALENZUELA.

The Federal Minister of the Treasury to the Chief of the  
State of Costa Rica.

Doc. 500

GUATEMALA, July 23, 1832.<sup>1</sup>

*Federal Republic of Central America.*

Secretary of State and of the Department of the Treasury.

Palace of the National Government.

*Guatemala*, July 23, 1832.

To the Citizen Chief of the State of *Costa Rica*:

The President of the Republic, being desirous that there should be established at the Port of *Matina* the Custom House which according to law belongs there but has until now been kept in *Cartago*, has been pleased to direct me to call upon you to the end that you take charge of the matter of securing contractors to undertake the erection at that Port of a warehouse and office for administration, suiting such buildings to the amount of goods brought in at that point.

Official reports have been received in this Ministry since the beginning of the current year that Señor Jorge O. Lanzón has offered to erect the buildings mentioned; and that you may ascertain what the facts are the Supreme Executive has suggested that I bring the matter to your knowledge; and also that according to the said reports the Señor David Nikerson can get or bring from the North the steelyards under consideration.

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*.

In addition to the aforesaid, the National Government desires, after the contract is made, the adjustment of which is left to you, that you make a report in regard to it, stating at the same time the place where it may be deemed most convenient to locate the Custom House referred to, whether at the old Custom House close to the salt inlet, or at the mouth of the River *Matina*, or even in the Valley of that name, so that having all the facts in its possession the matter may be definitively settled.

This is stated to you for the purposes mentioned, renewing the assurances of my appreciation.

D. U. L. (God, Union and Liberty).

The Section Chief:

MANL. YRUNGARAY.

**Doc. 501 The Federal Minister of the Treasury to the Chief of the State of Costa Rica.**

SAN SALVADOR, October 25, 1834.<sup>1</sup>

Ministry of the Treasury.

To the Citizen Chief of the State of *Costa Rica*:

House of the Supreme National Government.

*San Salvador*, October 25, 1834.

I have made a report to the Vice President of the Republic, with your esteemed note of the 18th of September last, in which you were pleased to advise me of having already forwarded, since November of the year previous, the proceedings had to justify the charges made against the Administrator of the Maritime Customs of *Matina*; and the necessity for relieving Citizen José María García from the appointment which you then secured with the view of his return to take charge of his position as Cashier of the General Treasury of that State.

The Vice President of the Republic, having this in view, has been pleased to direct that suitable orders be communicated to the General Intendancy so that Citizen Alexandro Escalante be again charged with the Maritime Customs of *Matina*, there being no one else to serve at that distance, and so that the Cashier, the Citizen José María García, be left at your disposal.

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*. Year 1834.

I have the honor to state this in response to you, advising you at the same time that I duly acknowledged the receipt of the proceedings referred to, which you were good enough to append to your note of the 3rd of November of last year, which doubtless went astray.

Be good enough to accept the assurances of my respect and consideration.

D. U. L. (God, Union and Liberty).

ALVAREZ.

**The Federal Minister of the Treasury to the Chief of the State of Costa Rica.** Doc. 502

SAN SALVADOR, February 11, 1835.<sup>1</sup>

*Ministry of the Treasury.*

To the Citizen Chief of the State of *Costa Rica*:

House of the Supreme National Government:

*San Salvador*, February 11, 1835.

Under date of the 2nd instant I stated to the General Intendant of the Federation, the following:

"The Chief of State of *Costa Rica*, in a note of October 3rd ultimo, states that the Administrator of the Maritime Customs of *Matina* has collected certain sums for account of the percentage provided for by the Decree of August 11, 1829, which belongs to the States and claiming the return thereof.

"The Vice President of the Republic, in view of this and the report by that Intendancy and the Chief Accounting Office has seen fit to direct that you make the proper investigations to ascertain whether the Administrator of *Matina* has taken charge of sums belonging to that State, issuing the proper orders in such case that they be turned over, putting them immediately at the disposal of that Government."

I have the honor to transcribe this to you in response to your note of October 3rd, reiterating the assurances of my consideration and esteem.

G. PARRA.

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*. Year 1835.

## Decree CIX.

ALAJUELA, April 3, 1835.<sup>1</sup>

*Privileges and Concessions granted in favor of companies undertaking to open a road to the North.*

The Vice Chief, in charge of the Supreme Executive Power of the Free State of *Costa Rica*:

Whereas, the Assembly has passed and the Council has approved the following:

"The Constitutional Assembly of the Free State of *Costa Rica*:

"Considering, that the enterprise of opening roads to the North Sea is of the greatest interest to the State, and that its first duty is to encourage it on account of the immediate and necessary results this must have upon the development of agriculture and the increase of population and industry,

"Has deemed it wise to decree and does decree:

"Art. 1. Without prejudice to the action of the Supreme National Government, to which report has been made, concerning measures proposed by companies located in *Alajuela* and *Cartago* for the purpose of opening a good road, the first to *Sarapiquí*, and the second to *Matina*, the State on its part, provided the roads turn out well, will appropriate therefor not only the expenses of the undertaking, but also a premium of six pesos annually upon the capital invested until it is amortized.

"Art. 2. To amortize this debt a toll of two reales shall be established as a charge for going and returning upon the roads mentioned, during the term of ten years.

"Art. 3. For the same purpose each of these companies may dispose of one thousand *caballerías* of lands from those that are vacant along the course of their roads, making a report to the Government of each alienation that may take place, so that it may be surveyed and the proper title issue, the income from this source as well as that provided for in the preceding Article being set aside to meet, in advance of anything else, the cost of the said roads.

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<sup>1</sup> Collection of Laws of Costa Rica. Year 1835.



"Art. 4. Each one of the companies referred to shall make up the account of the costs and the vouchers therefor in such a manner that the Government, to which they must be submitted annually, shall have no trouble in understanding them, these companies being allowed for such purpose to appoint their own administrators, treasurers, agents and other employees, as they may deem necessary, all of them under their own responsibility.

*"To the Representative Council:*

"Given in the city of *Alajuela*, on the twenty-eighth day of the month of March, 1835.

"**MANUEL AGUILAR**, Deputy President.

"**RAFAEL REYES**, Deputy Secretary.

"**JOSÉ GARBIEL PADILLA**, Deputy Pro-Secretary.

*"Hall of the Council:*

*"Alajuela*, April 3, 1835.

"Let it be sent to the Executive Power:

"**JOSÉ JULIÁN BLANCO**, President.

"**JOSÉ MARÍA ALVARADO**, Secretary."

Therefore, let it be executed:

*Alajuela*, April 3, 1835.

MANUEL FERNÁNDEZ.

To the Minister General of the Department.

The Federal Minister of Interior Affairs to the Chief of the State of Costa Rica. Doc. 504

SAN SALVADOR, May 26, 1835.<sup>1</sup>

*Ministry of Interior Affairs:*

To the Citizen Chief of the State of *Costa Rica*:

House of the Supreme Government;

*San Salvador*, May 26, 1835.

I have made report to the Supreme Government, with your esteemed note of April 4th last, and documents accompanying the same, as to the contracts made by your Government, as in-

<sup>1</sup> Archives of the Department of Foreign Relations of Costa Rica. Year 1835.

licated by the said note, with the companies undertaking to open a road along the trail which leads to the River *Sarapiquí* and to improve the one which goes to the Valley of *Matina* and Port of *Moín*.

As the Law of May 19, 1832, provides that the General Government is to make these contracts, with the consent of the Senate, the Vice President of the Republic has arranged that the said High Body be consulted in regard to the matter, forwarding to it everything pertaining thereto. When the Ministry under my charge shall receive due response thereto, and the Executive Power acts upon this affair, I shall have the honor to advise you, as I also do now, renewing to you, Citizen Chief, the assurances of my appreciation and respect.

D. U. L. (God, Union and Liberty.)

ALVAREZ.

**Doc. 505 The Federal Minister of the Treasury to the Chief of the State of Costa Rica.**

SAN SALVADOR, June 10, 1835.<sup>1</sup>

*Ministry of the Treasury.*

To the Citizen Chief of State of *Costa Rica*:

House of the Supreme National Government:

*San Salvador*, June 10, 1835.

I made a report to the Supreme Government, with your esteemed communication of the 4th prior thereto, in which you were pleased to state that the building used for a barracks and for the storage of goods belonging to merchants at the Custom House of *Matina*, was in very bad repair.

The Supreme Executive being advised of the contents of said communication was pleased to give to the Intendancy the proper orders for the repair of that building and the construction of a thatched house intended for the use of that Custom House, the employees being asked for estimates therefor.

The Intendancy has also been notified to have the Administrator and Cashier Inspector of the Custom House in question move to

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*.

that place within a period of one month; and the President expects it to take under its charge the duty of making the said employees carry out so urgent and useful a measure.

In thus responding to your note referred to, I repeat my assurances of respect.

D. U. L. (God, Union and Liberty).

ALVAREZ.

**The Federal Minister of the Treasury to the Chief of the State of Costa Rica.** Doc. 506

SAN SALVADOR, August 6, 1836.<sup>1</sup>

*Ministry of the Treasury.*

(Enclosed to the *Comandancia General* under date of August 21st.)

To the Citizen Chief of State of *Costa Rica*:

House of the Government:

*San Salvador*, August 6, 1835.

The National Executive being informed by your much esteemed note of the 4th of last month that the guards at the Port of *Matina* had presented to your Government a petition that they be appropriated the salaries they had earned during the months of April, May and June of the current year, but that there was in that Administration no funds whatever—the President of the Republic has resolved that what was due to the said guards up to June be paid by that of *Punta Arenas*, according to your wishes.

I state this to you, Citizen Chief, in response to your note referred to, assuring you again of my consideration and respect.

D. U. L. (God, Union and Liberty).

ALVAREZ.

<sup>1</sup> *Supra*.

Doc. 507 The Federal Minister of Interior Affairs to the Chief of the State of Costa Rica.

SAN SALVADOR, August 12, 1835.<sup>1</sup>

*Ministry of Interior Affairs.*

To the Citizen Chief of State of *Costa Rica*:

House of the Supreme National Government:

*San Salvador*, August 12, 1835.

I had the honor to make a report to the Supreme Government of the official note which you, Citizen Chief, were pleased to address to the Ministry under my charge on the 3rd of July last, relative to the road which a contracting company, a statement of which was enclosed, proposed to open toward the Port of *Matina*.

The President, taking note of both documents, was very much pleased, for nothing could cause him greater satisfaction than the opening of the road which is sought to be realized. This High Functionary believes that good roads are so many centres of activity and enlightenment, widening the scope of occupation, fostering the general welfare, introducing and cementing sociability, detaching the mind from local affairs and the preoccupation produced by isolation and concentration, encouraging agriculture, creating new values, putting into circulation those that were dormant and in general contributing to the development and prosperity of nations. Such is the idea formed by the Executive of the benefits that must flow from so laudable an enterprise, and he is therefore determined to afford the company all the help within his power and to assist its useful labors by using all the means within his reach for that purpose.

If it depended alone upon the resolution of the Supreme Government to accede to the petition made by the company that it be granted the revenues from the Custom House of *Matina* for the benefit of the enterprise, it could at once rely upon the most favorable response; but as this measure can not be adopted except by the Legislative Body, the only thing the Government can do in this matter is to initiate and support before that Body the

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*.

request of the company, with all the ardor and interest with which it is inspired by the conviction of the benefits which should be derived by that State and the entire Republic from the enterprise.

I do not doubt that the National Representatives, taking it up with the preferential consideration which it deserves, will accede to the wishes of the contracting parties.

Moreover, Citizen Chief, it is proper to state to you that the President regrets that he is quite without authority in this matter, for the purpose of giving at the present time to those interested more positive proofs of his desire to secure the success of so useful a project, especially on account of the delay from which the affair will suffer, inasmuch as the Congress is not in session; but as soon as it takes up its legislative duties in December, it will be brought to its attention.

At this time this is what I have to say to you in response to your note referred to, for your information and that of the contracting parties; and to renew upon this opportunity the assurances of my respect and most distinguished consideration.

D. U. L. (God, Union and Liberty).

ALVAREZ.

### Decree CXXXI.

Dec. 508

ALAJUELA, September 2, 1835.

*Grants to the contracting companies of Sarapiquí and Matina the power to sell a thousand Caballerías of land conceded to them by the Law of March 31, of this year, and imposing a toll upon loads carried over the roads that have been opened.*

The Supreme Chief of the Free State of *Costa Rica*:

Whereas, the Assembly has passed and the Council has approved the following:

“The Constituent Assembly of the Free State of *Costa Rica*, being desirous of affording encouragement to agriculture and commerce and to secure the welfare of this State, has decreed and does decree:

"Art. 1. The contracting companies upon the *Sarapiquí* and *Matina* roads are granted the power to sell the thousand *caballerías* of land ceded to them by the Law of March 31 of the present year, so as to continue work upon the said roads, making a report to the Executive as provided in the Law mentioned.

"Art. 2. The said thousand *caballerías* of land ceded to the companies shall be excepted from the duty imposed by the Law of March 31st last, for the term of fifteen years, with the purpose of facilitating their rapid disposal.

"Art. 3. The toll of two reales shall be paid for each load going and returning, already stipulated upon said roads for the period of ten years, and the sum thereby produced be used for the repair and betterment thereof.

*"To the Representative Council:*

"Given in the city of *Alajuela*, on the twenty-fifth day of the month of August, 1835.

"MANUEL AGUILAR, Deputy President.

"RAFAEL REYES, Deputy Secretary.

"MANUEL A. BONILLA, Deputy Secretary.

*"Hall of the Council:*

*"Alajuela, September 1, 1835.*

"Let it be sent to the Executive Power:

"MANUEL FERNÁNDEZ, President.

"JOSÉ MARÍA ECHAVARRÍA, Secretary."

Therefore, let it be executed:

*Alajuela, September 2, 1835.*

BRAULIO CARRILLO.

To the Minister General of the Department.

The Federal Minister of the Treasury to the Chief of the State of Costa Rica. Doc. 509

SAN SALVADOR, October 17, 1835.<sup>1</sup>

*Ministry of the Treasury.*

Citizen Chief of the State of *Costa Rica*.

House of the National Government.

*San Salvador*, October 17, 1835.

Having submitted to the National Executive the esteemed note of your Government, in which the losses in the tobacco revenues of your State are explained by reason of the introduction of this product from abroad, which evidently cannot be avoided except by the cooperation of the officials of the Federation, the National Executive, who desires more than anything else that the utmost harmony shall prevail among the subordinates of both authorities and that each help the other in everything that may tend to a maintenance of public order and respect for the laws, has thought it best to resolve:

1. That the General Intendancy notify the officials of the Department of the Treasury, located at the ports of your State, to actively cooperate on their part to prevent the smuggling of tobacco.

2. That a like notification be given to the Commanders of the Ports of *Matina* and *Punta de Arenas*, directing them to afford all the assistance needed to your Government for the same object.

The President of the Republic has also directed that this resolution be communicated to your Government, as I now have the honor of doing, and at the same time take this opportunity of again assuring you, Citizen Chief, of my especial appreciation and respect.

D. U. L. (God, Union and Liberty).

ALVAREZ.

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<sup>1</sup> Archives of the Department of Foreign Relations of Costa Rica. Year 1835.

**Doc. 510 The Federal Minister of the Treasury to the Chief of the State of Costa Rica.**

SAN SALVADOR, October 18, 1835.<sup>1</sup>

*Ministry of the Treasury.*

To the Citizen Chief of *Costa Rica*:

House of the National Government:

*San Salvador*, October 18, 1835.

By your esteemed note of the 20th of September last the National Executive has been advised that the Customs Guards located at the Port of *Matina*, who left for lack of means for their subsistence at that point, were directed to return to it by your Government as soon as it received the order communicated by the Minister of the Treasury for the payment of the salaries due to said guards at the Port of *Punta Arenas*.

You are informed of this in response to your courteous note, at the same time renewing my assurance of my distinguished appreciation and respect.

D. U. L. (God, Union and Liberty).

ALVAREZ.

**Doc. 511 The Federal Minister of Interior Affairs to the Chief of the State of Costa Rica.**

SAN SALVADOR, January 26, 1837.<sup>1</sup>

*Central America. Ministry of Interior and Foreign Affairs.*

To the Citizen Chief of the State of *Costa Rica*:

Government House: *San Salvador*, January 26, 1837.

In view of the fact that there is at the present time no Commander at the Port of *Matina*, and it being at the same time necessary to appoint some officer of your State for the purpose of issuing passports to persons who desire to leave the Republic by that port, the President resolved to ask you, as I now have

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*.

<sup>1</sup> *Supra*. Year 1837.



the honor of doing, if you will be good enough to use your influence to have the Political Chief of *Cartago* take charge of that duty while there is no Commander at *Matina*.

I renew to you, Citizen Chief, the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

D. U. L. (God, Union and Liberty).

ALVAREZ.

## Decree XLIX.

Doc. 512

SAN JOSÉ, January 13, 1839.<sup>1</sup>

*Authorizes the Executive Power to assist in repairing the Matina road.*

The Vice-Chief of the Free State of *Costa Rica*, in the exercise of the Executive Power:—

Whereas, the Assembly has passed and the Council has approved the following:

“The Constituent Assembly of the Free State of *Costa Rica*, convinced of the need which exists for a road to the North to develop the commerce of the country; and also knowing that while companies have been formed at different times with a view to increasing the traffic upon the one leading to *Matina*, yet the results have not been commensurate with the efforts put forth for various reasons as shown by experience; and believing also that an enterprise of such great importance as this will never be realized unless it is taken up by the State, expending from the Public Treasury what may be required for its cost, except such sums as may be collected from voluntary gifts; and that it is certain Agriculture will gradually fall into decay unless some means is provided for getting out the products which are already offered, with the consequence that it will be followed by the disaffection of the residents interested in the development of this source of

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<sup>1</sup> Collection of Laws of Costa Rica. Year 1838.

public wealth, and it being only just to the clamor raised in regard to this matter by those agriculturists and traders for the repair of the *Matina* road,—

Has decided to decree and does decree:—

Article Sole: To authorize the Executive Power (1), to assist in the repair of the *Matina* road in the way that may be deemed most suitable, by taking the sums needed from the Public Treasury; and (2) to open voluntary subscriptions in those settlements where circumstances will permit it, which are to be used toward meeting the expenditures the enterprise may require.

*"To the Representative Council:*

*"Given in the city of Heredia on the fourth day of the month of January, 1838.*

*"FÉLIX SANCHO, President.*

*"JUAN B. BONILLA, Deputy Secretary.*

*"JUAN DE DIOS MARCHENA, Deputy Secretary.*

*"House of the Council:*

*"Heredia, January twelfth, 1838.*

*"Let it be sent to the Executive Power:*

*"MANUEL A. BONILLA, President.*

*"JOSÉ MARÍA ECHAVARRÍA, Secretary."*

Therefore, let it be executed:

San José, January 13, 1838.

JUAN MORA.

To the Minister General of the Department.

Doc. 513

### Decree LIII.

SAN JOSÉ, January 29, 1838.<sup>1</sup>

*Authorizes the Executive Power, in case of need, to make a loan for the repair of the Matina road.*

The Vice-Chief of the Free State of *Costa Rica*, in the exercise of the Executive Power:

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra.*

Whereas, the Assembly has passed and the Council has approved, the following:

"The Constituent Assembly of the Free State of *Costa Rica*, with the important purpose that the enterprise for the repair of the *Matina* road may not prove a failure for the lack of means necessary to execute it, notwithstanding what was provided by the Decree of the 4th instant, has decided to decree and does decree:

"Sole Art. The Executive Power is authorized, in case the resources afforded by the Public Treasury and the voluntary donations made in virtue of the Law of the 4th instant, for the repair of the *Matina* road, shall prove insufficient, to make a loan from private persons of the sums needed for such purpose, stipulating with them the premium and the guaranties they may require.

*To the Representative Council:*

"Given in the city of *Heredia*, on the thirteenth day of the month of January, 1838.

"FÉLIX SANCHO, Deputy President.

"JUAN R. RAMOS, Deputy Pro-Secretary.

"JUAN DE DIOS MARCHENA, Deputy Secretary.

*Hall of the Council:*

*Heredia*, January 23, 1838.

"Let it be sent to the Executive Power:

"MANUEL A. BONILLA, President.

"JOSÉ MARÍA ECHAVARRÍA, Secretary."

Therefore, let it be executed:

*San José*, January 29, 1838.

JUAN MORA.

To the Minister General of the Department.

## Decree LVI.

SAN JOSÉ, January 20, 1838.<sup>1</sup>

*Directs that Subscriptions be opened to undertake the repair of the Matina road.*

The Supreme Chief of the Free State of *Costa Rica*:

In the execution of the Decree of the 4th ultimo, providing for the repair of the road to the Port of *Matina*, considering the importance of that enterprise, as a preliminary necessity for the undertaking of that road, provides:

1. That a contract be made with Señor Henrique Cooper for the inspection of the road to the Port of *Moin* as to the condition in which it is now, its exact measurement, with the directions in which it runs, the rough places, rivers, etc., and the preparation of a formal plan thereof, paying for this work and the incidental expenses from the General Treasury the sum of One hundred and fifty pesos, agreed upon with him—also allowing him on the part of the Government the instruments it may have and giving orders for protection and assistance.

2. That the voluntary subscriptions, contemplated in the Decree referred to, be at once opened, for the purpose of providing for the expenses of this enterprise; and that there shall be appointed for this purpose, in the city of *Cartago* the Citizens Priest José Ana Ulloa, José Antonio Oreamuno, Ramón Jiménez and Narciso Esquivel; and in that of *San José* the Citizens Rafael Gallegos, Jorge Stiefel, Agustín Gutiérrez and Joaquín Mora; and in that of *Heredia* the Citizens Priest Joaquín Flores, Rafael Moya, Nicolás Ulloa and Raimundo Trejos; and in that of *Alajuela* the Citizens Priest José María Arias, Matías Sandoval, José María Alfaro and Joaquín Méndez; who are all expected by the Government not to decline to render this important service.

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*.

3. The Minister General of the Department will make the contract spoken of in the first section and will take care that it is properly drawn.

Done in the city of *San José*, on the 20th day of the month of February, 1838.

MANUEL AGUILAR.

To the Minister General of the Department.

### Resolution XXIII.

Doc. 515

SAN JOSÉ, May 23, 1838.<sup>1</sup>

*Approves the work done by Señor Henrique Cooper in the survey of the Matina road.*

The Citizen Henrique Cooper, having made a report of the work done upon the *Matina* road, the contract for which was directed to be made with him by the disposition of February 20th; and it being found that not only has he performed satisfactorily the duty which he undertook of preparing a plan of the present road, but he has gone further in three matters of great importance, investigating and measuring the distance from *Moin* to *Limón*, making maps of those two ports and the coast that lies between them and lastly presenting a memorial of much merit relating to his journey, with various interesting and important observations; and

Considering, that the sum of One hundred and fifty *pesos*, for which he contracted to do the work, was not enough, nor to cure him of the sickness he contracted, and that it is the duty of the Government to protect and recompense this sort of service; being authorized to take any steps for the opening of said road, taking the sums needed therefor from the Public Treasury;

The Chief of State has been pleased to resolve:

1. Let there be expressed to the said Cooper the just appreciation with which the result of his work upon the *Matina* road has been received, and let him be duly thanked therefor in the name of the State.

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra.*

2. That as a token of recognition, let there be appropriated for him out of the Treasury Two hundred pesos more, in addition to the One hundred and fifty for his work, and ten *Caballerías* of vacant lands, in the locality he may ask for and select them, of which he shall be given the corresponding title of ownership, without any further expense upon his part than defraying the cost of survey when it is asked for.

That the memorial submitted by him be printed, for account of the Government, to the number of 400 copies, and those required by the State being taken, the remainder shall be placed at his disposal.

And for your information this is stated to you by order of the said Chief.

D. U. L. (God, Union, Liberty).

*San José*, May 23, 1838.

JUAN DE DIOS ZÉSPEDES.

Doc. 516

### Decree LXXVIII.

SAN JOSÉ, June 11, 1838.<sup>1</sup>

*Opens as a Major Port that of Matina.*

The Supreme Chief of the Free State of *Costa Rica*:

Whereas, the Assembly has passed and the Council has approved the following:

"The Constituent Assembly of the Free State of *Costa Rica*, being desirous of affording to the commerce of the country the protection needed for it to reach that degree of perfection which its welfare demands; regretting that by dispositions of the National Government and the reduction of *Matina* to a minor port, trade fell off to a very serious extent, the merchants having to register their goods and have appraisements made at some other port of the Republic;

"And considering that although, with a view of avoiding these evils, the Supreme Federal Government has more

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*.

than once been urged to make provision for the opening of said port, yet the result of such demands has not been secured; and noting, lastly, that it will be in vain for *Costa Rica* to incur the expense now impending for the repair of the *Matina* road if this step is longer delayed,

"Has resolved to decree and does decree:

"Sole Art. *Matina* is opened as a major port, and therefore the Executive is empowered to establish its Custom House provisionally, in accordance with the dispositions contained in the Federal Decrees of February 27, 1837.

"To the Representative Council:

"Done in the city of *Heredia* on the eighteenth day of the month of May, 1838.

"FÉLIX SANCHO, D. President.

"RAFAEL RAMÍREZ, D. Pro-Secretary.

"JUAN RAFAEL RAMOS, D. Secretary.

"House of the Council:

"*San José*, June 8, 1838.

"Let it be sent to the Executive Power:

"MANUEL BONILLA, President.

"JOSÉ M. ECHAVARRÍA, Secretary."

Therefore, let it be executed:

*San José*, June 11, 1838.

BRAULIO CARRILLO.

To the Minister General of the Department.

### CIRCULAR III.

Doc. 517

*Directs the Performance of the Resolution of the Superior Court of Justice, Providing for the Repair of the Matina Road by the Convicts Sentenced to Public Works, and Appointing as Director of the Station and Purveyor for the Road the Citizen Narciso Esquivel.*

SAN JOSÉ, June, 1838 <sup>1</sup>

The Supreme Court of Justice, at its regular daily session, under Article 4 passed the Resolution reading as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra.*

"Having in view some opinions by Judges of the First Instance, asking as to the class of Public Works and the location, to which convicts sentenced by them should be sent; and the Tribunal considering that the opening up of the *Matina* road is about to be undertaken; and that many of the convicts up to the present time have not performed their sentences, either for lack of a destination or of security, thus flattering themselves as to their impunity, while there are places in which such prisoners could work out their offenses, having also in mind the benefit to the public by reason of the facility afforded agriculturists and traders in bringing in and taking out their merchandise;

"It was agreed to advise the Judges of First Instance that within the term of eight days they cause to be forwarded to the jails of this city all the convicts sentenced to Public Works, leaving out those sentenced for less than fifteen days, who shall be employed in the repair of bridges, bad places and the cleaning up of the streets and squares of the settlements where it may be deemed desirable, and for other purposes of domestic administration;

"That inasmuch as vagrants ought also to be employed in such work, like instructions be given the Judges of First Instance, that within the same period they proceed in accordance with law to arrest and send forward those who are in the localities under their jurisdiction, doing the same with women prostitutes, and without any proceedings they shall be set at work in the mess or kitchen where those upon the Station are fed;

"And, lastly, it being necessary to provide them with requisite food and proper safeguards, the Supreme Executive shall be advised so that he may provide what is proper in so important an affair.

"By order of the same Tribunal I send to you a copy and that it may be brought to the attention of the Supreme Government for the purposes necessary."

And in pursuance of the foregoing note, the said Government, under date of the 22nd instant, declared as follows:

In accordance with the resolution of the Superior Court of Justice, directing all the convicts sentenced to Public Works to be employed upon the *Matina* road:



It is declared, that until the repair work upon the said road is begun, which will be started as soon as the explorer can give the proper directions, his health being reestablished, they shall be kept busy in the repair of the one that leads from *Cartago* to the village of *Turrialba*, along the trail that turns from the pass of *Quebrada Honda*, indemnifying the discoverer:

And that all this be performed let the Citizen Narciso Esquivel be appointed as Director of the road and as purveyor of the convict stations, with an allowance of thirty pesos monthly, who will collect the tools used in past years for such purpose, with the fetters and other appurtenances; and he shall also provide two tents with an extent of eight yards each, receiving from the General Treasury the money he may need, whenever the requirements of the work demand it, presenting his account monthly with vouchers at the Intendancy; all to be ready for the 6th of the coming month.

The General Commander will furnish the guard to look after the prisoners in proportion to the number of them collected in this city upon the day set by the Tribunal, for which purpose soldiers shall be taken from the company of the city of *Cartago*; and the order of the Court extending also to women who may be sentenced to Public Works, the Political Chief of the Eastern Department will make arrangements for their reception and occupation and the house to be used as barracks in the same city; asking also from the Intendant for this purpose in the corresponding budget the necessary funds; asking the former head whether he desires to continue in such service, as also the gatekeeper, or propose other persons to act in such capacity.

Let this matter be communicated to whomsoever it may concern.

## Decree LXXXVII.

SAN JOSÉ, July 18, 1838.<sup>1</sup>

*Uniting in a single Custom House in this city those of Matina and Calderas, and making the necessary provisions therefor.*

The Supreme Chief of the Free State of *Costa Rica*:

Being authorized by the Decree of May 18th of the present year, which opened as a Major Port that of *Matina*, to establish its Custom House provisionally, under the Federal provisions of February 27, 1837, having regard for the greater economy of officers and employees under the immediate care and supervision of superiors and the proportional distance between ports as well as the needful security for the interests of commerce and the public funds; and considering that this and the combination of operations will require the union in a single one of the Maritime Custom Houses of *Matina* and *Calderas*,

*Decrees:*

Art. 1. The Maritime Custom Houses of *Matina* and *Calderas* shall be united into a single one, located in this city, and made up of an Administrator, and inspecting Cashier and a clerk, with the allowance received by the Treasurer, Cashier and clerk of the Treasury of the State.

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Done in *San José* on the eighteenth day of the month of July, 1838.

BRAULIO CARRILLO.

To the Minister General of the Department.

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*.

## Resolution V.

Doc. 519

SAN JOSÉ, October 11, 1839.<sup>1</sup>

*Disapproves the Trail discovered by Señor Henrique Cooper in the direction of Moín.*

Supreme Government of the State.

*San José*, October 11, 1839.

Señor Enrique Cooper having applied to know whether or not the trail had been approved, which he opened under the contract made by him with the Government on July 24, 1838, from the vicinity of *Turrialba* to the Bay of *Moín*, and from thence to the Port of *Limón*; having in view the contrary report upon that coast which should be recognised and this having been formally done, the result is that the commissioners and those accompanying them declare that the opening of a good road, passable for mules, to be impossible over a great part of the way; and that at less cost and with less delay one can be opened along the old path.

It also appearing, by the contract referred to, that in case the trail of Cooper was disapproved he should be allowed three hundred pesos for his work from *Turrialba* to *Limón*, and the expenses incurred in the undertaking; and that if it should be approved an additional allowance should be made of one thousand pesos; therefore, inasmuch as it comes within the first case, the General Treasury will pay to said Cooper the three hundred pesos and the expenses incurred, after a previous auditing of the accounts by the tribunal of this name, to which a direction shall be sent for that purpose.

CARRILLO.

By his order: RAFAEL G. ESCALANTE.

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*. Year 1839.

## ORDER XVIII.

*Provides That an Effort be Made to Attract by Mild Measures the Native Savages Who Dwell Near Matina.*

SAN JOSÉ, June 25, 1839.<sup>1</sup>

## CITIZEN EASTERN POLITICAL CHIEF:

From oral statements made by the Citizen Henrique Cooper concerning his tour of inspection towards the Port of *Moin*, the Supreme Chief is advised that along the trail which is opened from *Matina* to said Port, several *palenques* or huts of wild Natives are to be found, who subsist in those mountain regions upon the product of their plantain groves and the chase of animals which they hunt in the woods. They afforded him assistance on his journey, letting him know their desires that he should visit their settlements situated a few hours distant. From this it is thought they may be tractable people and disposed to enter into friendly relations with the Costaricans who live in the interior.

This is a point of great interest to the State, from which it may some day derive incalculable benefits; and the said Chief being desirous of securing the confidence of those people and leading the way to amicable relations, it is provided:

1. That all those who travel to *Moin* by that trail treat kindly and reward in all possible ways the dwellers in those stockades; besides respecting their plantain crops and properties.

2. That both the Commander of the Port and the subordinates of the Custom House, as well as the *Alcaldes* of *Matina* take the greatest care that this disposition is strictly complied with, they being held responsible for any excesses or wrongs committed, however slight they may be, if they do not punish them; for which they are given competent authority, compelling the guilty persons to make good the damage and wrongs that may be done, and requiring them to labor up to one year in the work upon the same trail.

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*. Year 1839.

This is stated to you for its fulfillment and that it be communicated by an express to the authorities and subordinates in that valley.

D. U. L. (God, Union, Liberty.)

RAFAEL G. ESCALANTE.

### Decree X.

Doc. 52.

SAN JOSÉ, October 25, 1839.<sup>1</sup>

*Directs a road to be opened in the direction of the Port of Moín and provides measures connected with that object.*

The Supreme Chief of the Sovereign State of *Costa Rica*:

The trail having been disapproved which was opened by Henrique Cooper under the contract with the Government, from the neighborhood of *Turrialba* to the Bay of *Moín* and Port of *Limón*; it appearing from the report made by the Commissioners for its inspection and the declaration of persons who accompanied them, that the old road could be opened at less cost and in a shorter time, changing it in some places, improving its surface and the crossings of the great Rivers *Reventazón* and *Pacuar*; it being a matter of absolute necessity for the commerce and agriculture of the State that there should be direct communication by the North Sea with the nations of this continent and with those of Europe, which can not be secured as long as the bad roads leading to the coast lay so heavy a burden upon the taking out of products and the bringing back of imports that it almost amounts to complete obstruction; and

Considering, that individual interest ought in this matter to display all its energy and assist the Government in an undertaking of general advantage to the State and more especially to private individuals; but it has been shown by the failure to obtain any result from subscriptions heretofore decreed for objects of public beneficence that the desires of the Government would be frustrated and the hopes of the agriculturist, the mer-

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*. Year 1839.

chant and of all classes of society, all depending upon these producers of wealth, prosperity and the aggrandisement of nations, if the Government lack the recourse of applying thereto for the sums needed, guaranteeing them with the revenues of the State; and that while those ruined by a wasteful and careless administration and borne down by an enormous interior and exterior debt are unable at the present time to defray the costs of that enterprise, they are nevertheless an accredited security in favor of the lenders:

Decrees:

Art. 1. The road will be opened from the *Villa del Paraíso* to the Bay of *Moín*, by the old roadway, with possible straightening and improvement, giving it forty *varas* (Spanish yard of 2.78 ft.) in width in the mountains or where the surface is bad, and twenty in those that do not have those objections, taking advantage of the passes called *Peñón* and *Calabozo* of the Rivers *Reventazón* and *Pacuar*. The first operation will be confined to laying out and clearing, contracting by *manzanas*; and for this purpose notice shall be posted in all the settlements of the State, so that those who may wish to secure the contracts may come and underake their performance in the month of November next with the commissioner to direct the work. The second operation will be leveling, repairing and surfacing the bad places, constructing houses at each halting place of thatch or of tile if it is possible, for travelers and drivers; and the last is to make gutters in the mountains and keep the roadway clear in localities where there are no private holdings, since the owners of such are required each year to clean out once in front of what they occupy, the inhabitants of *Matina* being obliged to look after their own from there to *Moín*.

Art. 2. Hamlets of six families each will be established in the localities named *Jaja*, *Pasqua*, *Reventazón* and *Pacuar*; giving to the settlers in the first year 25 *manzanas* of land per family, an axe, a *machete* (wood-knife), two cows, two bulls and 25 pesos in money to make their dwelling and first clearing; but they can not alienate their holdings until after they have cultivated them for five years. For such hamlets poor families shall be preferred, who must ask the Political Chief of the Department for the favor; but if within one year the number of such places

is not full, the said Political Chief shall fill them up with people of the class indicated. There shall be grafted under the same condition of non-alienation a like number of *manzanas* of land to those who may desire to establish themselves therein after the hamlets have been formed, or at any other point along the road, within two years.

Art. 3. To make the contracts, to direct the work, establish the hamlets and for matters relating to the launching of safety boats on the Rivers *Reventazón*, *Pacuar* and *Matina*, authority is given to Señor Jorge Iglesias, who shall be indemnified for his personal expenditures, and he shall be rewarded with ten *caballerías* of land at such place as he may select.

Art. 4. For the expense that may be incurred, the merchants and the planters of coffee, sugar cane and cacao shall be asked to contribute Fifteen thousand (15,000) pesos, with an acknowledgement of the principal sum and interest at six percentum per annum, pledging to them the same branches which are charged for the amortization of the bonds, under the same terms relating thereto, but if they shall desire to take vacant lands a rebate shall be allowed of ten percentum. Therefore, there will be distributed in the city of *Cartago* a call for six thousand pesos, and in that of *San José* nine thousand, among a number of persons in each place, not exceeding twenty nor less than ten. The payments to the General Treasury must be made in three instalments: that is to say, the first one at the end of December, the second one at the end of March and the last one at the end of June, delivering in each case a certificate signed by the officers and registered in the General Accounting Office.

Art. 5 To make such allotment there shall be appointed, in the City of *Cartago* the Señores Antonio Figueroa, Ramón Jiménez and Joaquín Iglesias; and in *San José* the Señores Domingo González, Manuel Fernández and José María Jiménez. These committees shall meet in the hall of the municipality, the first one named acting as chairman, and they shall make their allotments within the first eight days of the month of November next, and forward the lists, signed by the members of such committees and by the secretary of the municipality who shall serve them in that capacity, to the General Treasury through the Intendant, who will provide for the registry in the General Ac-

counting Office, and upon being stamped it shall be forwarded to those mentioned therein for their information. At the same General Treasury the commissioner will ask for the sums needed for outfit, payments and other expenses, preparing an account and vouchers therefor, which must be presented at the end of the year at the General Accounting Office for his audit.

Given at the city of *San José* on the twenty-fifth day of the month of October, 1839.

BRAULIO CARRILLO.

To the Secretary General of the Department.

### Decree XI.

Doc. 522

SAN JOSÉ, November 18, 1839.<sup>1</sup>

*Directs the Transfer of the Natives from the Settlement of Tucurrique to that of Cot.*

The Supreme Chief of the Sovereign State of *Costa Rica*:

Having in view the report made by the Vicar of the State in consequence of the accounts given by the Padres Simón Marín and Aniceto Chacón, who have administered the village of *Tucurrique*:

And it appearing from all thereof that the population is diminishing to such a degree that there are now but eleven families; that the cause of such decadence is the insalubriety of the location they occupy, the savage propensities of the natives, the ill treatment they indulge in toward their women and their indolence and aversion to labor; that the Church and the parish house hardly exist any more, being in such a dilapidated state that they threaten to fall into speedy ruin, it really being impossible to rebuild either one unless the Government attends to the expense, for which reason no ecclesiastic can be found to live there; and moreover there not being enough to support him properly, so that worship must be maintained out of his own private purse for lack of a building, the portion the State has allowed and the part the Capitular Vicar granted him out of his own revenues;

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra.*



And considering that the expense for the support of a priest in said village and what it would take for the rebuilding of the Church and Parish House could with more advantage to the State be expended in localities better settled, under better conditions and with more hopes of development, such as the Valley of *Matina*;

And being mindful also that those unhappy ones ought not for such reasons to be abandoned to their sad fate, but on the contrary must be afforded some amelioration of their state and condition, by taking them away to a place where they can have the society of laborious people and be incited to clothe themselves and where to obtain comforts they will be obliged to work;

#### DECREES:

Art. 1. The native inhabitants of *Tucurrique* shall be moved to the village of *Cot*, where they shall be deemed to be the same as its natives, giving to them plots of land for their dwellings, land for cultivation and all the advantages that are appurtenant to that vicinage. For the cost of such transfer and for the building of dwellings, two hundred pesos are appropriated from the Public Treasury; and the municipality of the village will secure the help and personal cooperation of its inhabitants so that they may be helped with their houses. The Political Chief will make a report of the full completion thereof in the month of February next.

Art. 2. In the Valley of *Matina* there shall be built a Church and Parish House, whither shall be sent the Padre who served in *Tucurrique*, the altar furniture, vessels, ornaments and whatever belonged to the Church in that village. That ecclesiastic will have under his charge the administration of the whole valley, from the Port of *Moin* to the River *Reventazón*; collecting for his own support the first fruits and the ecclesiastical fees which are to be paid according to the schedule, beside the Synod, which shall continue collecting during the first two years.

The municipality of that valley shall appoint a committee consisting of five persons, who shall make an examination and locate the site where these buildings are to be erected, where it shall be safe from floods, dry and with a favorable exposure, a place suitable for the establishment of a large population. Having been laid out, building shall be begun under a commissioner who shall

be named for that purpose, those in the vicinity being required to give the cooperation needed. Two hundred pesos are appropriated for the cost of this work from the treasury of the tithes, the tenths in that valley having been paid voluntarily upon the harvests of cacao, notwithstanding the privilege that exists in favor of that product, and the amounts thus collected are to be devoted to the building of this church, for altars, images, ornaments, holy vessels and its decoration.

Art. 4. Those persons who desire to establish a home shall have a parcel of fifty *varas* in the settlement; and upon taking thither their wives and families during the first two years they shall be granted an area of sixty *manzanas* of land at such place as may be suitable for them in the same valley, without prejudice to third parties; or the half of such allowance during the three years following. The settlement shall be laid out by *manzanas* of 100 *varas* square each one, running the streets at right angles, having a width of 18 *varas* throughout their entire extent.

Given in the city of *San José* on the eighteenth day of the month of November, 1839.

BRAULIO CARRILLO.

To the Secretary General.

**Doc. 523**    **The General Military Commander of Costa Rica to the Minister General of the State.**

SAN JOSÉ, August 24, 1841.<sup>1</sup>

*General Military Command of Costa Rica.*

SEÑOR MINISTER GENERAL:

By private hand and under date of the 17th instant the Commander of *Moín* tells me what he has discovered:

"I take advantage of this opportunity to inform you that today there arrives at this Port a man of war, having on board the Superintendent of *Waliz (Belize)* and the King of the *Mosquitos*. I do not know the purpose of this expedition but I have been assured by Señor Terel at *San Juan* that it has no sinister motive. On board of the same bark comes as a prisoner the

<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Administrative Section. Bundle of communications of the General Military Command. Year 1841.

Administrator of *San Juan*, Manuel Quijano, for insults offered by him to the said Superintendent, and I will inform you of everything by a messenger who will leave to-morrow."

I have the honor to transmit this to you in order that you may bring it to the attention of the Supreme Chief.

*San José*, August 24, 1841.

MANUEL A. BONILLA.

(Resolution of the Chief of the State.)

Let an answer be sent saying that if the Governor of *Belize* and the King of the *Moscós* touch at the Port of *Móin* they are to be received with urbanity and courtesy, provided they come without hostile intent or with the pretensions the latter has put forward over that portion of the coast; and if they insult the State flag in any way the authorities and the residents of *Móin* are to support the dignity and the respect due to said State, the Commander of *Móin* acting under the instructions he has received.

Separately orders will be given, so that if at any time Manuel Quijano should come ashore at any place upon the coast which belongs to *Costa Rica*, he shall be immediately shot; since this was so directed in the Decree of July. 2, 1836, which put him outside the protection of the laws.

**The General Military Commander of Costa Rica to the Minister General of the State.**

Doc. 524

SAN JOSÉ, September 1, 1841.<sup>1</sup>

*General Military Command of Costa Rica.*

September 1, 1841.

SEÑOR MINISTER GENERAL:

By the regular mail from the Port of *Móin* I have received, under date of today, the following communication:

"Although in my former letter, which I addressed to you by the care of the Señor Commander of *Cartago*, I advised you that an English war vessel was to arrive on that day, it did not so take place, by reason of a calm and the currents which carried it on to *Bocas del Toro*. Yesterday I had positive news that

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*.

the Superintendent of *Waliz (Belize)* declared that the said Port belonged to the British Government and that he made a report to H. B. M. of having taken possession of it, directing at the same time the Colombian employees to leave there within a period of six months, within which time the Superintendent would come back to replace them with English employees. It is also positively known that they have gone to the Island of *Mangle* and I have no doubt that they will come to this port with like intentions.

"As the same Superintendent told Señor Terel at *San Juan* that he did not come to this port with hostile intentions, I have not undertaken to increase the garrison, so as not to show either fear or lack of confidence; and the only step I have taken is to prohibit the crossing of the *Pacuar* and *Reventazón* without a passport; and this under the pretext of building a church at *Matina*.

"I will continue to act with the greatest prudence towards the English of the war vessel and the *Mosco* King as long as they do not demand that rights of the State be given up nor attempt to have me do any humiliating acts. I will duly give to you an account of everything."

I transcribe this to you so that an account of it may be given to the Supreme Chief and the action he may take be communicated to me.

*San José*, August 31, 1841.

MANUEL A. BONILLA."

(Resolution of the Chief of the State).

Let the answer be given that he act in accordance with the general instructions and the orders of August 23rd last past.

Doc. 525

### Military Orders Relating to the Port of Moín.

1841.

LEÓN CORTÉS CASTRO, Director General of the National Archives,

*Certifies*; that in book number five of Letter-books of Correspondence with Commanders, kept by the Secretaryship of State in the Department of War and Marine, beginning on January 3, 1839, and ending April 12, 1842,

at the leaves (*folios*) which are mentioned, will be found the official papers which literally read:

*Leaf 101.*

No. 139. To the Commander General:

The Supreme Chief, being advised by the communication which the Commander of the Port of *Moin* sends under date of the seventeenth instant, relating to the news he had that an English war brigantine, having on board the Governor of *Belize* and the King of the *Moscós*, was sailing along the coast, has been pleased to provide: that if it should touch at your port, provided it is not with hostile intent, the persons indicated are to be received with politeness and courtesy, but that, if, by reason of the pretensions which the King of the *Moscós* has shown toward this portion of the coast, he should in any way insult the flag of the State, the authorities or residents of *Moin* are to maintain the dignity and respect of the State, the Commander of *Moin* acting in conformity with the instructions he holds.

I state this to you for your information and its execution.

August 24, 1841.

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*Leaf 103, over.*

No. 147. To the Commander General:

I communicated to the Supreme Chief your note of yesterday, transcribing that of the Commander of the Port of *Moin*, referring to the one which he had previously addressed to you communicating to you the proximate arrival of an English war vessel carrying the Superintendent of *Belize* and the King of the *Moscós*, and in which he states that he has reliable information that the said Superintendent declared that the Port of *Boca Toro* belongs to the British Government, with other things relating thereto; and he directs me to reply to you that he orders the Commander aforesaid to act as he has been advised in the general instructions and orders of August 23rd last past.

I state this to you for the purposes thereof.

September 1, 1841.

Leaf 104.

No. 149. To the Commander General:

You will arrange that a squad of fifty men shall set forth at once, under the command of an Adjutant, for the city of *Cartago*, where it is to be at the disposition of the *Jefe Político* (Political Chief) of that Department, to preserve order and execute the commands he may give. It will take the necessary field tents and reserve relays. The mess will be provided for it by the *Jefe Político* of this Department and therefore the daily allowance will be reduced a half *real*.

I state to you this per ord. sup. for its execution.

September 3, 1841. 8 p. m.

Leaf 104, over.

No. 151. To the Commander of the Frontiers:

Your official letter, dated the fifth instant, has reached this Ministry, and it includes a paragraph from a letter which was addressed to you from *Nicaragua*, with reference to the arrival of an English war vessel at the Port of *San Juan del Norte*, and it having stood off for *Quijano*; and it having been brought to the knowledge of the Supreme Chief, he directed me to reply to you by stating that the Government already had despatches from the Command of the North concerning the events at *San Juan* and *Boca Toro*, and that by these it was known that the said vessel, without touching at any of the coasts of the State, returned to *Belize*.

I state this to you in response to your note mentioned.

September 10, 1841.

*It conforms.*

Given in the city of *San José*, at 3.30 p. m. on the twenty-fifth day of January, 1912.

There is a seal which reads:

*Archivos Nacionales. San José.*

*República de Costa Rica.*

LEÓN CORTÉS,

Director.

VICTOR M. RAMÍREZ,

Chief Clerk.

Report of the Commander of Moín Concerning His Visit to Talamanca. Doc. 526

Moín, May 15, 1861.<sup>1</sup>

To the Honorable Señor Minister of the Treasury and War:

SEÑOR: On the fifth day of the present month I returned to this place after having passed through the inhabited points of the coast and having made a long visit to the Indians of *Tierra de Blanco*, carrying out Order Number 10, which you were pleased to communicate to me under date of March 7th, in which I was directed to make a visit to those localities to appoint suitable officials to maintain good order and protect the native Indians from the many depraved persons who for some years past have infested those places.

Although I met with obstacles everywhere, in the end I succeeded in reaching the interior peacefully, until I came to the Indians, who received me with great distrust and I had to conduct myself in the most friendly manner in order to inspire confidence and attain my object.

I had to remain eighteen days with those people in order to instruct them in their duties with the officials and the Government and also to settle some matters between the traders. I appointed an *Alcalde*, who is Don Joaquín María Iglesias, and having called together two tribe chiefs and the creole and Spanish traders I made them acknowledge Señor Iglesias as the only *Alcalde* in those regions, and the two chiefs promised to protect the said official as far as was necessary.

I have in my possession various documents which I collected in those places, which will inform you who the evildoers are who have been committing the horrible crimes which were perpetrated during the past year, in which the Indians are implicated, and I think it best for me to bring them myself so that I may be able to explain them and at the same time advise you of all the observations I made.

I am glad to tell you that in all the territory of *Blanco* peace has been established and that all wicked persons who disturbed

<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Administrative Section. Department of the Treasury and War. Correspondence. Year 1861.

good order have disappeared. As soon as the Engineer, Don Francisco Rurche, arrives in this place and arranges for his journey I will follow to your place.

With great respect and consideration I subscribe myself your obedient and faithful servant, Q. B. S. M. (who kisses your hands),

F. ALVARADO.

**Doc. 527 Appointment of Captain Don José Antonio Angulo as Political Chief and Military Judge of the Port of Moín.**

January 23, 1862.<sup>1</sup>

No. 37.

To Captain Don José Antonio Angulo:

The Government, confiding in your well proved patriotism, your abilities and zeal for the service of this administration, has seen fit to commission you to proceed to the Port of *Moín*, at the head of a respectable garrison, to discharge the duties that are set forth in the paragraphs following:

1. The President confers upon you a civil and military character, with administrative and judicial functions, ranking superior to the official who is now acting at that port as the Political Chief and Military Judge.

2. Your principal mission shall be to make the principle of authority respected and to let all the population of *Moín* know and understand that the Government of *Costa Rica* exercises in that settlement, as in others of the territory, the highest authority; that all the inhabitants there are subject to the authorities and laws of the country; and that no one without becoming a criminal can trample upon them with impunity. Notwithstanding this, the greatest moderation must be observed in the exercise of your duties, seeking to conciliate all of the inhabitants, to reconcile enemies if possible and above all to proceed with the utmost tact and along the course indicated by the law in matters concerning foreigners who may bring up claims hereafter against the country.

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<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Administrative Section. Department of Government. Year 1862.



3. In *Cartago* you will put yourself in touch with the Governor and Commander of the station, who will give you suitable instructions in respect to garrison, armament, war material and other things needful for the successful carrying out of your commission, and you will take note of and respect the suggestions he may make to you, provided they are not in opposition to the present letter.

4. Having arrived at *Moin* you will make a proclamation, notifying the population that the Government has invested you with power and authority to settle any difficulties that may exist and to pacify the inhabitants.

5. In the same proclamation you will declare that under the police laws and those of the communes, no one is allowed to carry arms within the settlement, under the penalties provided in those laws against those who may infringe the same and a fine which shall not be less than ten pesos.

6. You will so arrange that during the whole period of your stay in *Moin* the flag of the Republic shall be displayed at the place of your residence, the inhabitants thus becoming accustomed to see it and to respect it.

7. You will remain in the Port of *Moin* a full month, and even fifteen days longer if you shall deem it necessary, and you are to communicate to the Government and to the Governor of *Cartago* anything new that may occur.

8. You will endeavor to have the present Military Judge and Political Chief left thoroughly well established in his position, instructing and counselling him in the proper discharge of his duties.

9. You will keep a journal of everything that may occur and which you may observe at that port, in order to prepare a report to this Department upon your return.

10. Lastly, discretionary powers are given to you for such matters as may come up and which from this distance can not be foreseen by the Government.

May God guard you.

January 23, 1862.

Doc. 528

**The Alcalde of Talamanca to Governor Angulo.**Republic of *Costa Rica*. *Alcaldía of Talamanca*.OLJABA, March 22, 1862.<sup>1</sup>

To the Señor Governor and Commissioner of the Supreme Government, Señor Don A. Angulo:

Yesterday upon arrival at this port there was delivered to me your note, dated the first of the present month, in which you invited me to appear in your offices, together with the *ladinos* who reside upon this river, and also those called the chiefs of *Biribre*, who I am not sure will go down, although I will make all the efforts that are within my power.

As this notice was not communicated to me before I came down it was not possible for me to notify the said *ladinos*, but I only await your answer in order to go up immediately and coming down in company proceed upon the journey to your place.

This is my reply to your communication aforesaid.

I am with great consideration, your obt. servant,

JOSÉ JOAQUÍN IGLESIAS.

Doc. 529

**Report, Presented to the Supreme Government of the Republic of Costa Rica, by Captain José Antonio Angulo. Status of the "Valley of Matina," "Port of Moín," "Atlantic Coast," and "Territory of Talamanca," Year of 1862.**<sup>1</sup>

REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA,

SAN JOSÉ, May, 1862.

To the Hon. Sr. Minister of State in the Department of Government:

SEÑOR:

Having the honor to comply with the duty imposed upon me by the Supreme Government in the instructions contained in the note of Your Honor, No. 37, of the 23rd of January of the

<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Administrative Section. Department of Government. Year 1862.

<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Secretaryship of State in the Department of Government. Book No. 1411. Folios 1-40.

current year, in which I was directed to proceed, to the Port of *Moín*, in charge of a respectable garrison, I do not hesitate to set down everything I have been able to observe, not only at the port mentioned, but also in the Valley of *Matina*, upon the coast and even in "*Talamanca*," or "*Viceita*" or "*Tierra de Blanco*," which are the most interesting points for the Republic and it will be necessary to know their situation, population, healthfulness, character of the bay and anchorage, commercial productions, revenues, as well as the causes which have led to their decadence; and lastly the advantages of the Port of *Moín* (*Salt Creek*). I am conscious only of my insufficiency and upright character, for perhaps my account may not be pleasing to many persons who may inconsiderately expect not what a zealous soldier says who is desirous of the prosperity of his country, but the pompous narratives of a traveller;—but I am filled with confidence in considering that my intentions are understood by the heads of the Government and the sensible people of the Republic. Under this conviction I do not fear to tell the truth, devoid of all partiality, to the end that it may be appreciated at its just value and the due result attained, securing for those localities those institutions which will develop and improve their commerce and agriculture, now almost entirely dead.

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#### TALAMANCA

or "*Viceita*," or "*Tierra de Blanco*."

Your Honor was advised by my note of April 1st of the necessity of my going to *Talamanca* in order to establish the rule of law in that most interesting portion of the territory of the Republic, where some men of little judgment, exercising an influence over one of the so-called Kings, have sought to draw away the inhabitants from obedience to the Government of the Republic and tear it asunder. Although I only had an escort under my orders and was obliged to leave with the Commander at *Moín* a force sufficient to compel respect and obedience in any event; and although I had been told that one of those evil-minded persons was talking about 15,000 bows and arrows, with other things added thereto of a nature to intimidate spoiled children, I did not

hesitate one moment for a stamped authority in the "*proceeding taken to ascertain the causes which may have led to the decadence of the Port of Moin and the Atlantic Coast belonging to the Republic,*" to show the necessity of visiting those localities.

Having made up my mind and notwithstanding the sea was very high and rough, not wishing to wait, I ordered a vessel to be made ready, contrary to the opinion of those experienced upon the coast, and I embarked with the necessary oarsmen, four soldiers and a corporal, at eight o'clock in the morning of the 3rd; but hardly had we passed the breakers at the mouth of the stream of *Salt Creek* when the rudder irons broke. We got into the cove of *Portetillo*, where we put in new irons, and started out again at 11 o'clock, with a wind from the Northeast, but in front of "*Punta Simón*" or *Grape Island*<sup>2</sup> the current was so strong that the rudder again broke, so that not being able to reach either of the two points near which I found myself I was compelled to go back to *Salt Creek* upon the solicitation of the experienced pilot and of the seamen who began already to be worried.

Two of the company, Don José Joaquín Iglesias, *alcalde* and military judge of *Talamanca* and Don Sotero Buitrago, an expert in the language, had gone on foot along the beach from *Portetillo*, because they had listened to the warnings of the pilots.

Therefore, I returned in the evening and spent the 4th and 5th there; but on the 7th, a lucky number, I started out once more, though not without the opposition of some of the residents out of their regard for my person; but this time the North-west wind favored me steadily, until we came to the beautiful point of "*Cagüita*," without anything happening except the wetting of some baggage. I decided to pass the night there under the fine cocoanut trees and we had the same wind which kept up until the break of day. The baggage was already dried out and we proceeded upon our voyage, reaching "*Old Harbour*" (*Puerto Viejo*) and landed at the "*Portete*" at one o'clock in the afternoon on Tuesday the 8th. There Señores Iglesias and Buitrago were awaiting me, a Jamaican Englishman Joiner and the Irish

<sup>2</sup> *Grape Key* or *Uvita* are the names borne today by the *Quiribrí* Island of Columbus.

Captain William Swift, who were good enough to receive me with the respectful courtesy due to a guest and a public functionary.

The two last named gentlemen, Joainer and Swift, had a very troublesome question at issue between them, which had several times led to the use of arms. The matter was pending and so without changing my wet clothing I went at once to the house of Captain Swift, where his adversary also came, and I looked into the difficulty which had led to the quarrel and which was nothing more than the damage to some poor vegetables the Captain had in his plantation caused by some hogs belonging to Joainer. They were soon reconciled, embraced each other fraternally and we went together to the house of Joainer, where dinner was waiting for us, at which the Captain sat down, all their former troubles entirely forgotten.

This occasion gave me an opportunity to learn about the plantation which Captain Swift had established, covering about three *manzanas* (*manzana*, a square of land 100 by 100 *varas*), upon the shore of the sea. I admired the extraordinary fertility of the soil, as shown by the beauty of the plants, and the Captain was good enough to give me a list of them. It appears that he came to that place on December 3, 1860, and the large trees which he cut down with his own hands, and with the help of a *Jamaica* negro who accompanied him, named William, had not yet decayed. He had two houses covered with thatch and enclosed with palm boards, one of them although small being so comfortable and well furnished, with pictures and hangings in such good taste for so remote a spot, that truly I was greatly pleased.

1475 Cocoanut palms of different sizes.

20 Orange trees.

20 *Aguacate* (Alligator Pear) trees.

5 Bread Fruit trees.

2 Lime trees.

800 settings of Plaintains, of different kinds.

700 settings of *tiquisque*<sup>3</sup> or *Mafafa*, each one of which yields at least one *arroba* (weight of 25 lbs.), for my assistant

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<sup>3</sup> *Xanthomosa sagittifolium*.

Julián Bonilla saw two *arrobas* taken from one plant, which the Captain directed should be presented to me.

50 Pineapple plants, of as good a sort as those of *Guayaquil* or of *Taboga* in *Panama*.

300 Coffee bushes, which at the time I saw them were ten months old, from the time the seed was planted in the ground, forty inches high and having such fine lateral shoots that I was more than ever persuaded of the great fertility of the soil.

I began with this to form a very good opinion of these localities, which, forgotten by the Government of the Republic and depreciated by Costaricans generally, will some day be the most productive portion and do the most business and therefore have the most traders of any part of the Republic.

It is many years since that the Government of the State was advised that *Talamanca* was the richest portion of the country, in a statement prepared by Señor Don Rafael Osejo, a Nicaraguan, who was a Professor of Philosophy here during the administration of Señor Don Juan Mora.

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I must not fail to call attention to one important fact and that is that the positive character of the Costaricans has prevented them from recognising and appreciating at its real value the territory of which I am speaking, and I shall try, although my ability may be very limited, to set down whatever I was able to observe and find out in the second third of the month of April last, during which time I was in the interior of "*Talamanca*," or "*Viceita*" or "*Tierra de Blanco*."

Leaving *Old Harbour* (*Puerto Viejo*) on Thursday the 10th of April, 1862, I took up my march along the road that leads to the bank of the River "*Sixola*," "*Doraces*" or "*Telirc*," accompanied at the same time by the military Judge, Don Joaquín Iglesias, Don Sotero Buitrago, whom I took along as interpreter, he being an expert in the "*Blanco*" language, and the Jamaican Joainer, as my personal escort, with the men needed for the ascent of the river.

Special mention should be made of the groves of *cativo*,<sup>4</sup> yielding a sort of resinous substance, as important for medicinal purposes as it is plentiful in that locality, for this important tree is found growing over many leagues of land, especially between *Old Harbour* and the *Cerro de Cuabre* (Peak of *Cuabre*); it being remarkable that while large quantities of this resin might be shipped no one up to the present time has sought to exploit this product.

Upon the *Cerro de Cuabre* there is found cinchona or Peruvian bark, *caraña* (a kind of resinous gum), oak and evergreen oak, *cedro*<sup>5</sup> and particularly *guayacán*<sup>6</sup> from the fruit of which the Indians extract an oil they call *Hibó*, which they export to Europe with such good success that it is considered and reputed to be the best grease to soften the skin and refresh the scalp. This oil is paid in *Mosquitia* two pesos a bottle more or less.

Upon this same *Cerro de Cuabre* a kind of cane is found from which they make walking sticks and umbrella handles, than which those that come from the East Indies are no better.

After four hours on the road I arrived with my company at the landing called "*Cuabre*" upon the aforesaid River "*Sixola*," "*Doraces*" or "*Tilire*," which having a width of about a hundred yards, although it was very dry, is navigable for small *bongos* (flat canoes) and little boats; and having been told that the only hut where we could lodge was infested with insects I decided to continue the journey, embarking in three boats that had been made ready beforehand, so that proceeding up the stream about four o'clock in the afternoon I came to a place they call "*Zapata*," where, although there was no hut, I commanded a halt to be made and did in fact stop there and passed the night tranquilly, since there was no rain nor any insects to annoy us or trouble our slumbers.

On Friday, the 11th, we started on our way at five o'clock in the morning and about twelve o'clock, after breakfasting, I met with two Indians of the *Biribiri* tribe, employed by the North-American, Mr. Lyon, and they asked me if I was Captain An-

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<sup>4</sup> *Copaifera hemitomophylla*.

<sup>5</sup> *Cédrela mexicana* and *Cédrela Glaziovii*.

<sup>6</sup> *Tecoma chrysantha*.

gulo (for already they had notice of my coming in those regions); and accepting a small trifle that I presented to them they sold me some meat of the *tepescuinte*<sup>7</sup> or mottled rabbit which they had just caught and decided to come along in my company at once.

A little later a small fishing boat came down bringing a letter sent from "Cuén," carried by a servant from the house of the Military Judge, Señor Iglesias, in which it was stated that "Edward Shepherd declared the day before in various houses that he did not know how a Commander of Costa Rica dared to penetrate into those regions without his consent,"—the letter adding that he had been heard to say that he had "*incited the natives to prevent my passage by the use of arms.*"

Señor Iglesias having shown the letter to me, I directed him to conceal it, so as not to alarm the rest of the company, and proceeding on our way we came, about three o'clock in the afternoon at the mouth of River "Dueri," upon a large family of natives of the same *Biribiri* tribe, who came out to meet me and not only made no effort to hinder my passage, but coming out to my canoes they embarked therein two women and a child of about two years, while the father and others took the boat almost in their hands through the channel of the *Cuén* to the place of that name, where there were five houses of various Spanish creoles, among which was that of Señor Iglesias.

The first house we came to was that of a worthy New Granadian trader, named Mateo Gómez, who had lived there more than ten years and had some four sons and a beautiful Indian girl, neat and industrious, who belonged to the village of *Boruca*, from whence (like many other natives of both sexes) she had fled to escape the horrible punishments with the lash, with which the Indians declare the *Cures of souls* seek to teach them the doctrines of Jesus Christ; and although this is as true as it is contrary and prejudicial to that doctrine, brought with so much affection and charity, with so much persuasion and with the most admirable submission to the authorities of the land, it must be confessed and much more believed that *we are still left with the vestiges of the state of degradation in which the Government of the Mother Country held us subject.*

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<sup>7</sup> *Coelogenys paca.*



In this house I was received joyfully. There was a *Zuquia* (doctor) there named Joaquín, feared among the tribes on account of his witchcraft with which he was credited; and as I suffered still from the bite of a fly by which I had been inoculated on the River *San Juan de Nicaragua* during the year previous, some of the poison in my right hand not having yielded to the long treatment which had been administered to me in the capital by the excellent practitioner Dr. Don Alejandro von Frantzius, I took occasion to inform myself as to the curative methods of this *Zuquia*, asking him to cure me. Thereupon, taking my hand very formally he carried it to his lips and breathed a little of the vapor of his respiration upon the ulcer, as the only remedy. I was surprised at such a treatment and I asked him what was the cause for that ulcer. He had no hesitation in answering that it was a pustule, telling me through the interpreter that if I did not touch the body of any one, being *zuquied*, I would soon be well. As I do not trust or believe in witchery or superstitions I paid little attention to this treatment, as was natural, continuing to hope that better medicines would effect a complete cure.

After chocolate had been served, which was awaiting me, I went to the house of the Military Judge, Señor Iglesias, about half-past five o'clock in the afternoon, where there were preparing the me a sumptuous repast.

Without losing any time I duly held an inquest to ascertain what the aforesaid Shepherd had said, the result being the fact that he had expressed surprise that a Commander should enter into those regions without his permission, but that it was not true that he had incited the natives to prevent my passage.

On the following day, Saturday the 12th, I sent a message to Santiago, the titular King of *Biribiri*, that I desired to see him. Whereupon, about five o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, a young man presented himself to me, about 28 years of age, of a fine and interesting appearance, alert and cordial, at the head of some forty natives of both sexes, all persons of good height and well built, the men dressed in a shirt and pantaloons of blue cotton drilling, some armed with bows and arrows and others with single and double-barrelled guns. The women wore dresses or petticoats, or only a chemise and a blanket or flannel skirt; but

none of them were nude as has been said. I received them with my usual courtesy and soon the so-called King Santiago understood that the object of my visit was no other than to protect in the name of the Supreme Government of the Republic the natives of "*Talamanca*," or "*Viceita*" or "*Tierra de Blanco*," against the unjust and wicked persecutions of some ambitious traders who had gone among those tribes. He was gratified and related to me the horrible cruelties of some New Granadians and other men from *Heredia* and *Alajuela*, which led to the terrible assassinations among them, as to which he did not hesitate to speak, what he had commanded to be done, through some natives under his authority, to a criminal, for acts of force, for ravishment and gang robberies, and for assassination of Chepe Quesada, saying further that with the death of that bandit those lamentable occurrences had ceased in the "*Tierra de Blanco*," and that the *ladinos* (creoles) now met with in the region generally were all decent and peaceable, as to whom there was no complaint.

After presenting to him a beautiful Turkish turban, ornamented with small beads, braid and ribbons, and giving some pantaloons, shirts and handkerchiefs to those who accompanied him, he came to see me on the following day, Sunday the 13th, with them and several *ladinos*, after breakfast served for everybody (in which I had occasion to see Santiago take part in the service with the dexterity of a man accustomed to city ways) at the house of a man from *Cartago* named Francisco Mora, whose native consort, who spoke Spanish very well, is the mother of a charming little boy about three years of age, who was presented to me dressed very elegantly and shod with very nice shoes and stockings. This woman, called Isabel, was the one who first of all showed me a sample of heavy reddish cinchona, indicating that it was inclined to be yellowish or pale reddish, and giving me the generic name of "*Cupuriscú*," by which it was known. She also furnished me with some of the beautiful dye of a purple color which they call "*Cacamá*," showing me the plant from which it was extracted, by distillation.

Upon the principal subject of cinchona I took especial care to talk with Santiago, who was very much pleased to learn that this would be a new branch of commerce which could be sub-

stituted advantageously for sarsaparilla, since the whole of *Talamanca* did not produce more than about one hundred quintals in a year, the obligations of the settlement requiring more than that, and he offered to go with some Indians to get some of the three kinds mentioned, assuring me of the abundance of all, and offering me, with such ingenuousness, it might be called sincerity and naturalness in a man free from malice, to furnish me with any of the things I might indicate which could be found in the woods, without failing to frequently invite me not to go back without having become acquainted with all of the tribes and whatever might be desirable that was contained in that region.

Being told that an unfortunate notion was prevalent here as to the Indians, considering them almost as cannibals, he smiled disdainfully and replied that there was nothing of that kind; that they were all generally peaceable; that among themselves, one family against another they had their quarrels, but in these they never used any kind of weapons, for guns and bows and arrows were not to shed human blood but to provide food by the chase, they making use in their disputes only of sticks. In speaking of this he referred to the case of the natives of the tribe of *Téribes*, who many years ago killed a missionary priest, using their arrows, and that this tribe had fallen so low by the punishment of God that now but very few of them were left, for the most part women, but in such an ill condition that their color is almost yellow and the abdomen much bloated. I thought it well to let them continue in this superstition and I assured him moreover that Christians ought to kiss the ground upon which the minister of the Most High set his foot; still it is very evident that the real cause and reason for this decadence in the health of the *Téribes* comes from the fact that they live upon the bank of a river where copper abounds. Therefore, leaving them, as I did in this case, in such a belief, those referred to could be made to change the place of their abode.

Speaking next as to the desirability of some missionary fathers coming to those regions to teach Christian doctrines and preach the Gospel, he said to me: "If they are willing, it is well they come; I will not place anything in the way, nor my companions either; but, I do not call for them, because we are poor and we cannot build those great buildings (churches) and those holy

images, which it is said were here at one time: besides, the natives from the village of *Térraba* and *Boruca* still bring to us reports of the bad treatment they receive from the Fathers, which causes them to come and reside among us."

On Monday morning, the 14th, the said Santiago informed me that he was obliged to go to his dwelling to perform some duty and at the same time to fetch me the specimens of the "*Cupuriscú*." While I was sorry to have a man leave me who could furnish me with so much information regarding the country, I could not help being deprived of his company. The remainder of the day was taken up in getting out various liquid colors, blue, purple and red, all of them beautiful.

On Tuesday, the 15th, the King Santiago came back, bringing to me as a present a necklace of tiger teeth, which I still have, and also some plumes of feathers. He came accompanied by "*Lapis*," who bears a like title of King: and also by several captains, chanters (priests), *Zuquias* (medicine men) and a numerous company of both sexes. The men were dressed as I have already described, and at the very least wore a large shirt and a loin cloth, and all generally with the hair very long, black, straight, fine and divided into four plaits coming to the rump. They covered the head with a hat of straw or with only tufts of fine feathers of different colors. As for the women, some of them had costumes of calicos with the corresponding petticoats or skirts; others had skirts and chemises ornamented with what the countrywomen wear here; and others, moreover, with only short skirts of cotton cloth, heavy and fine, having blue yellow and purple stripes, all fast colors, the latter being so excellent in my humble opinion as to be advantageously substituted for cochineal, in the trade, since it costs very little to cut the vines that produce it and send it to Europe. It was very pleasing to me to inhale the delicious perfumes used by the women in their hair dressing, to observe the beauty of their bodies, with their pale reddish tint, and especially some who had brilliant and beautiful blue eyes. I would infer from this that they had some mixture with the white race, which had produced the variation in their color, the flexibility of their hair and the different eyes; and recollecting the forays which in times past the Indians of "*Talamanca*" or of "*Viceita*" made upon the settle-

ments of *Cartago*, from whence they carried away many white women, I have no doubt that from the union with them came the name of "*Blanco*" (white) which they bear, and the almost morbid use of chocolate without sweetening, called *tibio*, which so generally distinguishes the dwellers in *Cartago* from the rest of the Republic. I saw in *Cuén* of *Talamanca* the grossest use of this drink, there having been served to King Santiago in one afternoon as many as fourteen cups, which showed me how passionately fond all the Indians are of cacao, of which they never fail to have in every tribe some groves yielding a quantity sufficient for their consumption, it being of a much better quality than which is served in the capital; for although they extract the oil (mixing it with perfumes for use in hair dressing) it still retains an exquisite aroma.

In the afternoon the North American, Mr. Lyon, was presented, and the *Mosquito* Edward Shepherd, with various other creoles from different places along the coast. I had already hoisted the national flag upon a high pole in front of the house; and in the main hall of it, closed only half-way, I had caused to be draped over the coat of arms of the Republic another of a smaller size. All those present having gathered there, after a very abundant dinner served in plenty to every one, I stood up in full uniform, with all the insignia of my rank, and informed them as to the purpose of my visit, and spoke especially of the reports I had received that there was one among them who pretended to have influence over one of those called Kings, who was amazed that I, a military officer of the Republic, should come into those regions without his consent and that his insolence even went so far as to threaten with fifteen thousand arrows the legitimate authorities of the country; that it was well known who it was that in his dreams pretended that "*Talamanca*," "*Viceita*" or "*Tierra de Blanco*" belonged to the New Granadian Confederation, or that is to say, to the United States of *Colombia*.

I read to them, for this purpose, the Treaty celebrated between *Colombia* and *Central America*; Art. 4 of the Constitution of the Republic, and lastly Art. 115 of the Penal Code, in order to ask who was willing to render himself liable to the penalties provided for in the said law against those who would dismember Costarican territory; giving them to understand that even the

Port of "*Boca Toro*," which *New Granada* withholds to the injury of the rights of this Republic, was not yet decided, even though being now a part of that nation; that as to this, the manner of settling such high matters definitively was fixed by international laws and it was not possible in any way, nor in any nation, that they should be subject to the caprice of an adventurer to whom the boundaries of the country were of no consequence, to which he had been carried by his exorbitant greed. I asked those who called themselves civilized merchants, what had they done for progress and the civilization of the locality, where they had lived for so many years?—except to subject some simple natives, followed like Mussulmen by six wives, whom they treated, not like those in the Orient by keeping them in a seraglio or harem but like animals upon whom they piled loads of sarsaparilla and even of timber and the thatch for the ranches where they were sheltered, keeping their sons in the utmost ignorance of even the principal tenets of our holy religion, for there are many children of fourteen years and upwards who are not yet baptised, although their parents are Catholics; and they even allow to go to waste so many and such valuable vegetable products!

Without any hesitation whatever I referred to Edward Shepherd as the one responsible for the crime of seeking to break up the territory, etc., and the latter grew pale and stammering stood up on his feet in the presence of them all and denied what had been said about him; and the remarkable thing was that all the witnesses were present. The result of this was that he fell greatly in their estimation, for up to that moment they had considered him as a person able to maintain what he said.

The ceremony was closed by cheers for the Government and the Costarican people, Shepherd asking my permission to withdraw with his followers; it being reported that, much surprised, he had decided to leave the place before the rising of another sun, proceeding to "*Bocas del Toro*," where he had his principal dwelling, not without confessing to several persons that if he had said those things it was so that his name might not be unknown. \* \* \*

During Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, I passed the time in the company of the three Kings, for the one named

Chirmo, over whom it was supposed that this Shepherd exercised an influence, arrived on Wednesday, the 16th of April, and broke out into loud laughter when Santiago told about the scene on the day previous, declaring that he was convinced the former did not amount to much and assuring me, as did Santiago and Lapis, that if I went away from the place without becoming acquainted with all the tribes they would be ready to accompany me whenever I came back, so as to take me over the whole of "*Talamanca*," promising that nothing should be hidden from me.

I was constantly being presented with things to eat, or netting of *pita* (a fibre plant) and tufts of feathers, while Chirmo, to whom I presented a cap of blue cloth bound with gold braid, regretted that he had not brought either his kingly insignia nor anything with which to make me a gift. I secured specimens of three kinds of cinchona, yellow, dark red and light red, dye in powder, purple color, which the Indians extract by evaporation from a vine they call *Cacarmá*, a copal gum, pure and mixed which they call *Acuna* or *Acunchica*, and in the end I was able to satisfy myself that "*Talamanca*," which seems to have about 15,000 inhabitants, can furnish for the export trade not only drugs and dyes, but the most valuable woods for carpentry and cabinet work, besides the rich minerals it contains and the skins of many quadrupeds.

The resident *ladinos* who trade only in sarsaparilla, since they know no other product, are as follows:

*In "Cuén," of the Biribiri Tribe.*

Citizens .....	4
New Granadians.....	9
Nicaraguans .....	2

*In "Sipurio."*

Citizens .....	1
Nicaraguans .....	1
Mosquitos .....	1
New Granadians.....	1
North Americans.....	1

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Total, men..... 20

Each one of these men has at least one native woman and some have more than two in the same house and in the same bed, with as many as eight children that have not been baptised, who speak both Spanish and the "*Blanco*" tongue.

Speaking with the Kings concerning the need for building a house for a primary school and a jail, Chirmo asked me *if I did not think it better to wait till someone committed an offense before building a jail*. I replied to him that we were not on a level with buzzards, without any shelter, living in the open; that we built our habitations to protect ourselves against the weather and we constructed everywhere houses of correction in which to shut up offenders. This idea of the King Chirmo raised such a laugh among the natives roundabout that I could not refrain from smiling myself, agreeing with the rest in the necessity for constructing the house referred to. For this purpose I prepared the following note:

No. 8. Republic of *Costa Rica*.

Commission of the Supreme Government.

*Cuén*, April 19, 1862.

To the Señor Alcalde and Military Judge of "*Talamanca*," or "*Viceita*," or "*Tierra de Blanco*."

Having decided, in the interviews I have held with Santiago, Lapis and Chirmo, the titular Kings of "*Blanco*" upon the construction of a building twelve yards long and seven wide, of good timber, thatched with the best kind of palm, one part of which is to be used as a jail, and the other for establishing a primary school, I beg that, with the utmost promptness, you will proceed at once to the construction of said edifice, at the place of "*Cuén*," as the one most suitable at which to establish a settlement, since its climate is pleasant and healthful, and its beautiful situation and its fine water indicates that it is the place for the gathering of the principal native tribes and the few *ladinos* who dwell in those regions.

Therefore, you will require the inhabitants from the age of eighteen years, without any exception as to color or class, to take part in the work, provided they have not already rendered any public service.



When the building is finished, you will erect in front of it the tallest flagstaff possible, to be used in flying the national colors, which I leave with you, so that the inhabitants continuing to see it, becoming familiar with it and knowing it will respect and desire it. In the interior of the building you will put a stocks of good and heavy timber, to be used for restraining and punishing offenders or guilty persons, of whatever class they may be; and in order to apprehend them you will call upon one of the titular Kings, so that at the head of some natives he may assist therein, in case you may be unable to do it alone with the *ladinos*.

Until the Supreme (Government) decides to make suitable provision for the administration of these interesting regions, you will not neglect to take charge of the supervision of the primary school, teaching the children in it with the utmost kindness to read and write and instructing them in Christian doctrine according to the catechism of Padre Ripalda; and I hope that among the native girls who know how to weave and sew some will be found who in their own houses can take charge of teaching the girls in those things and in the knowledge of the true God.

I fully confide in your activity and in your well known desire for the prosperity of the Republic and for the welfare of these inhabitants, as well as in the moral and material support which the good citizens will afford you in successfully carrying out the enterprise proposed.

I am your very attentive and obedient servant.

A. ANGULO.

On Sunday, the 20th, the mentioned Kings withdrew with their followers, leaving the Captain named "Onfres" and eight men beside to accompany me to the sea-coast; and upon my promising, in taking leave of them, to come again to see them, at the latest within a period of six months, they once more offered to come to meet me upon receiving news of my arrival at the port, so that in company with them I might become ac-

quainted with each one of the tribes and teach them the way to make use of their productions.

The tribes which make up "*Talamanca*" or "*Viceita*" or "*Tierra de Blanco*," are:

<i>Chicao.</i>	<i>Telire.</i>
<i>San José Quevequir.</i>	<i>Sainsí.</i>
<i>Chombrí.</i>	<i>Biribirí.</i>
<i>Hurem.</i>	<i>Térebés.</i>

The principal vegetable productions which the soil yields and which can be exported advantageously by the Rivers *Sixola*, *Doraces* or *Telire* and *Changuinola*, are:

Sarsaparilla.....	<i>Native names.</i>
Cinchona or Peruvian Bark.....	Zas.
Cáscara, <sup>8</sup> black.....	Cupuriscú.
Jagua (fruit of inaja palm), blue....	Durubí.
Cáscara, red.....	Shipú.
Bejuco (a vine), purple.....	Decóo.
Cáscara, red.....	Cacamá.
Bejuco, violet.....	Córerí
Incense, a gum, aromatic.....	<i>Ojo de bucy</i> (ox-eye).
Caraña, a resinous gum.....	Acúma.
Cativo (a gum).	Dóri.
Rubber.	
Vanilla.	

The principal woods for carpentry and cabinet work are:

Mahogany. Cedar. Rosewood. *Lignum-vitæ*. Oak. Tolu-tree. Cacique.<sup>9</sup>

While I was assured that there were other woods of a yellow or rose color, of very fine quality, the Indians were unable to show them to me, nor did they know their names; but that would have been of not much importance, to know the name, without a knowledge of the wood in order to appreciate it.

The minerals to be found in the country are:

Gold: auriferous deposits in the River *Duerí*, a tributary of the *Cuén*.

Copper: native, in the River *Orocí*.

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<sup>8</sup> Bark of a tree, or husk or peel of various fruits.

<sup>9</sup> *Eugenia lepidota*.

Platinum: I have not seen it, but the New Granadian, José del Carmen Gracia, assures me it was found abundantly in the ravine of *Hurbaquí*, of the tribe of *Hurén*.

Coal. In *Holm Creek*, which empties into the Atlantic.

Coal. In *Mananita*, which empties into the Atlantic.

I can not close this report without referring to the principal customs of the natives, both as to births and also as to deaths or burials; it being sufficient as regards the union of the sexes to state that polygamy existing the women are bought, as is done in Circassia and other places in the Orient.

When a woman finds the time of her parturition approaching, she goes into the bush near her dwelling. There at the foot of some tree she builds her shelter and strews upon the ground a quantity of leaves in the shape of a couch, where very little different from a female pig, or any other sort of quadruped she brings her child into the world, and takes care of it, after previous inspection by another woman if it is the first one. There she remains during the quarantine period that no one may see her, and much less her husband, for they have so much repugnance to the foulness that the woman who carries the food leaves it in a sort of basket which is hastily made of one or two large leaves at a place where the lately delivered woman can get it. As soon as the time of her quarantine is at an end a full bath is taken and the mouth is washed out with *cupuriscú* (extract of cinchona) so that she may be received in her house, where however her cares are not over, since it must be remembered that the husband must never see anything dirty in connection with the child, because it would be very ill-received by him and by any one else among the many who live together in a house of conical shape, the roof beginning at the ground, like a funnel with the mouth downward, and the support of which (a large forked pole) is used to fasten the hammocks to, in the form of a star.

It is not believed that, although many families may live together in the same dwelling, they hold their goods in common, since each family has its own cooking fire and kitchen necessities close by, they having such respect for property that no one takes anything belonging to another; and so the one who may not have any food awaits the favor which must be extended

by each woman who is preparing that for her own family; the custom of extending such favors being such that from any dish, however small it may be, some must be distributed to everyone, and especially to the guest who may have stopped at the house.

It is not alone in the foregoing that the natives show their respect for the property of another, but when any person dies without leaving a successor, they destroy what is left to such an extent that it is surprising to one who has not witnessed such a practice. When I was there an old Indian woman died who had lived alone in a little hut on the bank of the River *Jurquin*, leaving two or three head of cattle, some pigs and many fowls; but cutting up everything they threw it into the water, going away satisfied that the memory of the dead woman would not be a source of disquiet.

The contrary happens with those that die leaving a family. In such cases they wrap up the body in leaves like a *tamal* (in a *tamale* or bundle) and it is placed upon a *barbacoa* (a rude support) at a short distance from the house and all the property of the deceased is guarded with the greatest care, inasmuch as the natives believe they will die if they touch or dispose of anything belonging to the dead person. When a year has expired after the death, then they make a party in which with the family are gathered the King of the tribe, the *cantores* (chanters) or priests, and even the *Zuquias* or medicine men who attended the patient; and they make a festival, dancing and singing, in which the two sexes do not mingle, but men dance with men and women dance with women, continuously, until all the property is exhausted that was left by the deceased. Then they transfer the remains to the burial place, where they deposit the same in a trench, which they cover with a great slab of mahogany or cedar, about four or five yards long and five or six *cuartas*<sup>10</sup> wide, and from four to eight inches thick, the same one serving for the whole family, and those of larger dimensions being very extravagant.

I shall always remember with pleasure the cordial words with which, in the little port of "*Portete*," Captain Onfres bade me

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<sup>10</sup> Forty to forty-eight inches, a *cuarta* being the fourth part of a Spanish yard, or about eight inches.

farewell, with his eight companions. Each one of them in his turn, beginning with the Captain, took me firmly by the hand, saying in his own language: *Eru yeno berclina?* (Will you think of me?). *Vequia neru yeg* (I shall miss you very much). *Eru yeno berclitu yeno* (You make my heart very sorrowful). Then they invited me to get into the boat which was still upon the land and without permitting my sailors to assist them they raised it up until they thrust it into the water, dropping some copious tears which affected me deeply and begging me to come back soon.

May the Hon. Sr. Minister overlook the defects in this report, accepting at the same time the consideration of profound respect and special esteem with which I subscribe myself with great attachment the subordinate and servant of Your Honor.

A. ANGULO.

## DECREE XXI.

Doc. 530

*Authority Conferred Upon the Executive Power to Appoint as Political Chiefs, Subordinate to the Government of Cartago, Such Caciques of Talamanca as May Be Deemed Suitable; With Various Other Provisions Helpful to the Organization and Progress of the Peoples Thereof; and Furthermore Authorizing the Same to Carry Out the Reduction of the Natives Known as "Guatusos," Who Live Within the Jurisdiction of the Province of Alajuela.*

SAN JOSÉ, July 25, 1867.<sup>1</sup>

*The Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Costa Rica, in Congress assembled,*

## DECREE.

ART. 1. The Executive Power is authorized to appoint as Political Chiefs, subordinate to the Government of the Province of Cartago, such of the *Caciques* of Talamanca as may be deemed suitable, and they shall be paid out of the Public Treasury, as

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<sup>1</sup> Collection of Laws of Costa Rica. Year 1867.

compensation for their services, a salary which shall not be less than ten pesos nor greater than twenty pesos monthly.

ART. 2. He is also empowered to appoint a capable and well disposed person, with the title of Director of the Subjections of *Talamanca*, to counsel and assist the *Caciques* in the administration of the peoples thereof, to suggest the best methods for their most speedy civilization and prepare the reports which are asked for by the Supreme Government, or by the Governor of *Cartago*. The allowance for the Director shall be one thousand two hundred (1,200) pesos annually.

ART. 3. Whilst the development of those peoples does not permit their administration to be arranged like the others of the Republic, these *Caciques*, Political Chiefs, shall govern and administer justice in conformity to their customs, subordinate to the directions of the Government; but they shall never be permitted to impose upon any person the penalty of capital punishment, nor that of banishment from the territory of the Republic. Nor shall they arrest, imprison, keep in seclusion or upon public works for a longer period than one year.

ART. 4. From the decision or action of these *Caciques*, Political Chiefs, an appeal may be made to the Governor of *Cartago*, and from the latter to the President of the Republic, who in such case must confirm, amend or revoke such decision or action, in accordance with the principles of justice and after the proper reports.

ART. 5. Whenever any individual, not a native of the tribes of *Talamanca*, shall commit any grave offense in that jurisdiction, the Director shall investigate the matter and send the record, together with the person arrested, before the Criminal Judge of *Cartago*, in order that he may be tried according to law. The same proceeding shall be had whenever any native commits an offense which merits capital punishment, that of banishment from the territory of the Republic or the arrest, seclusion, imprisonment or labor upon the public works of a person for more than one year.

ART. 6. The Executive Power is authorized to appropriate salaries, not exceeding sixty pesos monthly, to the Curates who may be sent by the Diocesan to those peoples, who shall not be allowed to collect there any fees or revenues.

ART. 7. The Executive Power is also authorized to mark out the jurisdiction of each *Jefatura Política* (the district of a Political Chief); to take all the measures that are conducive to the best administration of those peoples, and to appoint and designate a compensation for such employees as he may deem to be strictly necessary.

ART. 8. In the same way the Government may undertake to carry out the reduction of the Indians called "*Guatusos*," who live within the bounds of the Province of *Alajuela* and should be subordinate to the Government of that province.

*To the House of Representatives:*

Done in the Session Hall. National Palace.

*San José*, June 18, 1867.

J. M. MONTEALEGRE, President.

J. RAFAEL MOTA, Secretary.

RAMÓN FERNÁNDEZ, Secretary.

*To the Executive Power:*

Hall of the House of Representatives. National Palace.

*San José*, July 24, 1867.

MANUEL A. BONILLA, President.

ANDRÉS SÁENZ, Secretary.

JUAN M. CARAZO, Secretary.

NATIONAL PALACE. *San José*, July 25, 1867.

Let it be executed:

JOSÉ MARÍA CASTRO,

Secretary of State in the Department of Government:

A. ESQUIVEL.

**Mr. Keith to Dr. Gabb, Relating to a Scientific Investigation to be Made in Talamanca.**

Doc. 531

NEW YORK, October 29, 1872.

Professor William Gabb.

VERY ESTEEMED SIR:

You have to undertake to make investigations regarding the geology, the topography and the natural history of those portions of the territory of the Republic of *Costa Rica* that are known under the name of "*Talamanca*," or in a part of the latter or in other parts of *Costa Rica* which I may designate upon my

return to that country. You are to organize a company of persons, suitable for the work to be done and to take entire charge of the party; and you will have the right to employ and discharge, provided you have the full number of persons competent and perform your work to my satisfaction and that of my Financial Agent in *Costa Rica*. It is of course understood that you will give your entire time and energy exclusively to securing the full and complete success of this work.

In case you may not have the full number of persons required, the salary and proportional expense of such person or persons shall be deducted from the total sum allowed to you; but you are always to do everything you can to fill up the number of your party with as little loss of time as possible. In case Professor von Seebach accepts my proposal to take charge of these investigations, you and your party will be under his direction. The reports, maps and the necessary documents, relating to the work of each person of the party, shall be presented in his name, but the Chief will always have the privilege of making such comments as he may deem necessary.

Your party should consist of yourself, as Chief; one topographer and three general assistants. You are to be upon the ground with your party within three months where the work is to be done, counted from this date, advising me or in my absence my Financial Agent in *San José*; and you are to continue your labors without interruption until concluded, except only in case of illness or accident.

You are to receive from my Financial Agent in *Costa Rica* the sum of \$1,500, in Costarican gold, each month, for the payment of all current expenses, such as salaries, payments to servants, provisions, etc., etc. The salaries shall be:—for yourself, \$300 per month; for the topographer, \$150; and for the other three assistants, \$100 each; and the balance to be used proportionally for general expenses. It is my wish that Señor J. C. Zeledón of *Costa Rica* shall be a member of your party.

You will be provided in the United States, at my expense, with all the instruments, papers and other necessary articles for your work; and in the same way, where most convenient, you will procure the animals necessary and equipment; as to all of which you will furnish me with an account upon the comple-



tion of your work. The actual expenses of each member of your party shall be allowed from the place where he may be engaged to *Costa Rica*, and a like sum at the end of his employment; and the salaries shall begin upon the day work is begun.

You will arrange to have exact maps made and will submit them to me from time to time, together with full information concerning the work done. You will also pay especial attention to all matters which may have a bearing, directly or indirectly, upon the geology or climate of the country and as to whether it is possible for persons of the Caucasian race to live and work there. You will treat all these things fully and completely in your special and general reports. But, above all, you must always bear in mind, so far as possible all your scientific work must have some immediate practical application. All information resulting from your labors and investigations, or those of your assistants, shall be solely for the use and benefit of your employers and you are not at liberty to publish anything concerning your work, except with my written consent or that of my authorized agent.

It is understood that you are to conclude the work within one year (counted from the day the work is begun, and in no case are you to exceed eighteen months, except with my approval in writing).

In case, after your arrival in *Costa Rica* and the work has been begun, Professor von Seebach comes to that country and you decline to work under his orders, you shall be at liberty to cancel this contract and be entitled to an extra payment for three months for yourself and the persons of your party.

In case of any question or difference arising under this contract, the two parties agree to submit its decision to two arbitrators, one selected by each of them; and in the event of a disagreement these arbitrators shall choose a third; both parties being obliged to submit to the decision of the said arbitrators as final.

Upon the signature of this contract by you in duplicate, it shall

be deemed as binding upon both in due form and as having the force of a contract.

I take this occasion to subscribe myself yours obediently,  
E. M. KEITH.

**Doc. 532 Report by Dr. Gabb to the Minister of Public Works of Costa Rica.**

SAN JOSÉ, September 18, 1874.

Hon. Sr. Don Salvador Lara;  
Minister of Public Works.

MY DEAR SIR:

In response to your request for a full report as to the condition of the work of the scientific exploration of *Talamanca*, I respectfully submit, as briefly as possible, the following:

The copy of the contract in your hands explains the object of the work very well and the terms under which I consented to undertake it. I contracted to do the work, receiving: (1) all the expenses of the journey for myself and my assistants, from the point where each one was engaged to *Costa Rica* and return; (2) all instruments and other outfit necessary for the work; (3) for current expenses, such as salaries, servants, cost of provisions, etc., One thousand five hundred pesos (\$1,500) each month, in Costarican gold. For this I contracted to make the exploration, aided by four assistants, I paying all current expenses, and making reports from time to time and map or maps as some portions of the surveys were completed. At the end of the work I was to deliver a final and detailed report and a map of all the country examined, as explained more in detail in the contract. I also contracted to do the work within a year and a half (eighteen months) of work in the field.

In 1873 I spent ten months in the field, when taking advantage of the rainy months of November and December, I came back here in order to prepare reports and a map of the work finished up to date. Upon arriving here I learned that the Government had taken charge of the contracts of Mr. Keith. As Mr. Keith had, in the contract, designated Señor Nanne as his agent, I asked that gentleman as to the situation of my affairs. He assured me, after some days, that the Government had also taken

charge of the *Talamanca* contract and that I should proceed exactly as if Mr. Keith was present. In order to be better satisfied I asked him who my employer was, and he replied the Government through him; he being the only person through whom I should receive orders or to whom I was to give statements as to the work, exactly as before.

I was detained here by Señor Nanne until January 17th, awaiting a settlement of the accounts of the preceding year; and upon the 16th of January I was directed by him to resume the work. Thus I lost two months here, for no fault of my own. I left on the 17th and proceeded without delay to *Talamanca*, in order to finish up the work. Up to this date I had given to Messrs. Keith and Nanne three reports or statements of the condition of the work and, as Señor Nanne desired a map, I left Señor Martínez, my topographical assistant, here to make the map, paying him out of my own pocket, and taking another in his place. Señor Martínez undertook to deliver the map before the end of February, but, after my arrival I learned that in consequence of a serious illness, from which he barely escaped with his life, he only completed it a few days before the departure of Señor Nanne for Europe.

The rains in this year in *Talamanca* were very heavy, almost unprecedented. There was not a whole week of dry weather during the months that are generally dry. In consequence of this I had many delays, more than could have been anticipated. For example, we were once kept prisoners for ten days between two swollen rivers, without being able to go forward or back. This not only caused us much delay but also a good deal of suffering; since at times we had to travel and work without sufficient food. Notwithstanding all this, in seventeen months of work in the field, one less than the limit of the contract, we made a complete exploration of the whole of the region, from the frontiers of *Colombia* to the head of the River *Tiliri*, an area of about three thousand (3,000) square miles, or in other words more or less one-seventh of the entire area of the republic.

In a few weeks I can submit a detailed map of that region, more exact than any map that exists of an area of such size in the republic. My data concerning the geology, mines, climate

and resources of the country is full and my statement will be all and perhaps more than called for by the contract.

Beside, I have caused a collection of things to be made covering almost every branch of natural history. This collection, as directed by Mr. Keith, at the beginning, was deposited in the care of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, United States, as the property of the Government and subject only to its orders.

When I was sent out by Señor Nanne in January, he agreed to make my accounts payable in the office of the Railway of *Limón*, each month. I have his letters in which he not only said, as he said before, that the Government accepted the contract, but that he had directed Señor Mallory to pay my money there. I not only did not receive my money in *Limón*, but my draft or order for the final balance for the year previous, which he accepted and signed, with promise to pay it upon delivery of the map by Señor Martínez, has not yet been paid. I have engaged my assistants and the servants out of my own credit and money; I have bought the food necessary in the same way, and all the money I received on account of my salary for the year past, except a small sum I sent to my mother in the United States for her support, I spent otherwise in the work. Beside I have been forced to get other sums loaned by my friends for the same purpose.

The accounts in the possession of Señor Nanne will show the full amount and the details of the expenses of the undertaking up to date. Aside from the travelling expenses (*Supre 1*) and the purchase of articles required for the work (*id 2*), which were not for my account, I have received or the enterprise owes to me the following:

1873.

*Credit.*

Feb., July, 6 months, at 1,500.....	9,000.00
Aug., Nov., 4 months (one assistant less), at 1,300 . . . . .	5,200.00
Dec. (Martínez and Gabb only).....	750.00
	————— 14,950.00

*Debit.*

Received in various sums to Jan. 15th..... 13,646.98

Balance in my favor, for the year 1873..... 1,303.02  
1874.

*Credit.*

Jan., April, 4 months at 1500..... 6,000.00

May, Aug., 4 months (one assistant less),  
1300 ..... 5,200.00

Balance of previous year..... 1,303.02  
----- 12,503.02

*Debit.*

Mar. 8. Office. M. C. Keith by G. Nanne..... 410.69

Mar. 8. Martinez by G. Nanne..... 150.00

Aug. 28. Juan Cooper by Milner..... 100.00

----- 660.69

Balance in my favor, Sept. 1, 1874..... 11,842.33

I am, Sr., your faithful and obedient servant,

WM. M. GABB.

Chief of Exploration of *Talamanca*.

San José, Sept. 18, 1874.

### Resolutions Relating to Talamanca.

Doc. 533

No. 544. 1880-1893.

Guillermo Vargas Calvo, Director General of the National Archives, certifies:

That in the Resolutions Books of the Secretary of State's Office in the Department of the Treasury, kept in the archives of this office and belonging to the years 1880 to 1893, the numbers of which are hereinafter stated, and at the folios which are also given, there are found extended with the formalities prescribed by law, duly signed and marked by the high officials authorized to do so, the following governmental resolutions, which under the public authority with which I am invested, I certify are authentic and literally copied from the original with which they are compared, and state:

\* \* \* \* \*

I. Book No. 2155.

At Folio 1.

No. 2. NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ, May 4, 1880.

Having considered the communication, which under No. 87, dated April 25th last, was addressed to this office of Secretary by the Administrator of Customs of the North; it is resolved:

Let there be approved the provisions made by the said Administrator in compliance with the despatch which was directed to him by this Secretaryship, dated the 15th of the same month of April, relating to the inspections that should be made, on the Atlantic littoral.

Let there be approved also the commission which was given to the Principal Agent of Police when he made his trip to *Talamanca* by governmental direction, in order to ascertain the location of the rubber duties which are exported from those places.

The *Jefe Político* and his Secretary will hereafter sign the memorandum of remission of said duties to the Administrator of Liquors and advise the Custom House of *Limón*.

Let it be communicated: Marked by H. E. the General President of the Republic. For the Secretary of the Treasury—The Secretary of Government, MACHADO.

II. Book No. 2081.

At Folio 173.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ, November 28, 1885.

Having before him the report made by the Licentiate Don Pedro Pérez Z., who relies on the one hand upon the scientific work of exploration of the territory of *Talamanca* made by Professor W. Gabb, and on the other on accounts he has received from practical explorers of the zone which is on this side of the Cordillera of *Talamanca*, and shows the easy practicability of a road which shall connect the central valley of that extensive and rich territory with the valley of *General*, reached by the road from *New Santa María* now in construction; with the views of preparing the necessary studies for the execution of

such an important idea as would be the communication with the settled interior of the country, by a land route, of the territory of *Talamanca*, destined later to be one of the richest sections of the Republic on account of its advantageous location, the great variety of its climates and the ease of its fluvial communication with the Ocean, His Excellency, the General President of the Republic, Resolves:

To authorize the necessary cost, up to the sum of \$200, in order to pay the expenses of a purely investigating expedition, from the crest of the Cordillera which divides the *General* from *Talamanca* as far as the villages on the River *Telire*, and to entrust said exploration to Señor Don Jesús Bonilla, who has spontaneously offered himself therefor; Señor Bonilla being required to proceed in accordance with the indications given by Señor Pérez Z., who has in his possession and continues to collect data concerning the matter.

Marked by His Excellency the General President of the Republic.

FERNÁNDEZ.

### III. Book No. 2107.

*At Folio 105.*

No. 55.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ, August 18, 1886.

The General President of the Republic, with the view of expediting the distribution of national (domestic) rum in the territory of *Talamanca*, Resolves:

1. The Administrator of Liquors of the District of *Limón* will sell the aforesaid liquor at the rate of forty-five centavos per litre, to the persons registered to distribute it in *Talamanca*.

2. On such sales there shall not be allowed any discount for freight.

3. The Administrator will not make a second or subsequent sales to said distributors, unless there is presented to him the former bill of lading, with certificate of the Chief of the Colony of *Talamanca* that the quantity of rum previously sent had arrived at that place.

4. The Administrator will advise the Chief of the respective Customs Guard every time that a sale is made of said article,

destined for *Talamanca*, so that he may watch to see whether it is or not shipped to that locality.

5. The registration is to be made in the Government office at *Limón*, where the persons shall present themselves who wish to deal in said liquor in the territory of *Talamanca*.

Let it be published. Marked by the Señor General President of the Republic:

FERNÁNDEZ.

IV. Book No. 1841.

*At Folio 256.*

No. 228.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ, January 10, 1890.

The Vice President in the exercise of the Executive Power, in view of the authority conferred upon him by the Decree No. 4 of September 25th last past, and at the petition of Mr. Minor C. Keith, in virtue of the rights given to him by Art. 9 of the Contract of August 3, 1888, for the construction of the Northern Railway, Resolves:

1. It is declared that there shall not be subject to denouncement the vacant lands, estimated at approximately twenty-five thousand hectares, included within the following boundaries: North, the highway that leads from *Barranca* to *Bagaces*; South, the Maritime Mile of the Gulf of *Nicoya*; East, the River *Barranca*, and West, the River *Tenorio*.

2. Vacant lands, deeded or not, which the same Concessionaire believes contains an approximate area of two hundred thousand hectares, between the following boundaries: North, and West, the River *Pacuare*; South, the River *Telire*; and East the Maritime Mile of the Atlantic Ocean, with the exception of the twelve miles belonging to the Costa Rica Railway to *Reventazón*.

Let it be published. Flourished by the Señor Vice President.

JIMÉNEZ.



## V. Book No. 2029.

At Folio 94.

No. 203.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ. December 3, 1890.

Frequent petitions being made to the Government to allow passage from *Limón* to *Old Harbour* in the small National Steamer "Juan Santa María," with a view of accommodating the public by this new means of communication with the territory of *Talamanca*, the President of the Republic, Resolves:

That the Administration of Customs at *Limón* may receive passengers and cargo in the Steamer mentioned, under the following tariff: Passengers: From *Limón* to *Old Harbour*, \$1.00. From *Old Harbour* to *Limón*, \$1.00. Freight: For each 46 kilos, \$0.50.

Let it be published. Marked by the President: Valverde.

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At Folio 147.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ. June 9, 1891.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

That by a charge upon the contingent fund of the Secretaryship of the Treasury there shall be paid to Don Florencio Castro the sum of Nine hundred pesos (\$900.00) to cover the expenses of an exploration entrusted to him by the Government on the Coast of the Atlantic. From the same account there shall be paid monthly the following sums: Two hundred pesos (\$200.00) to the said Señor Castro for his salary as Chief of the exploration referred to; and Eighty pesos (\$80.00) to each one of the following persons, Isidoro and Pedro Molina, Rafael and N. Salas, as assistants.

Let it be communicated: Marked by the President.

VALVERDE.

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At Folio 188.

No. 135.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ. October 21, 1891.

Considering that by resolution of this date and by mutual agreement the annulment of the contract made with Don Luis Wichmann, for the sale of liquors and tobacco in the District of

*Limón*, has been arranged; and considering the desirability of re-establishing the old administration of that business, the President of the Republic, Resolves:

To re-establish official administration of liquors and tobacco in the District of *Limón*, to count from the 1st day of November next. The official in charge of that business shall receive a monthly compensation of one hundred and fifty pesos and shall be subject to the following obligations:

1. He shall give a bond to the satisfaction of the Secretaryship of the Treasury, in the sum of Five thousand pesos.

2. He shall receive at the Custom House in the proportion he applies for and in virtue of telegraphic or written orders from the Secretaryship of the Treasury, the said merchandise.

3. He shall sell the articles mentioned at the following prices: Jamaica Rum, per litre, \$1.11. Jamaica Rum going to *Talamanca*, per litre, \$1.00. Anisette, per litre, \$0.90. Plug tobacco, box of 25 kilos, net weight, \$45.00. Plug tobacco, box of 10 kilos net weight, \$18.30.

4. He shall deposit weekly in the National Treasury, through the section chief of the "Sello Nacional" the proceeds of the sales.

5. He shall take care that none of the articles mentioned are out of stock and shall advise the Government of those that are nearly exhausted at the Custom House:

6. He shall deliver sealed with wax and stamped the packages of rum sold for *Talamanca*, and shall provide, for the purposes hereafter stated, for the bill of lading of the Customs issued by the authority of that place, in which the arrival of the liquor at its destination shall appear, with the securities required.

7. He shall keep open for the sale of liquors and tobacco from eight to ten in the morning, and from eleven in the forenoon to four in the afternoon, every business day, in conformity with law.

8. He shall keep his accounts by double entry, shall take a trial balance monthly during the first five days of each month, and on the 31st day of March in each year, the end of the fiscal period, he shall close his accounts and shall send them to the Chief Accounting Office (*Contaduría Mayor*) for his examination and action. During the first ten days of April of each year, he shall

give to the Secretary of the Treasury a report of the operations carried on in the administration of his office during the economic year. All the rum from Jamaica delivered in the Custom House to the Administrator of Liquors and Tobacco of *Limón* shall be taken and charged in his accounts at the price of one peso and eleven centavos per litre, and the difference of eleven cents conceded to *Talamanca* shall be allowed and credited upon receipt of the bill of lading referred to in Section 6 of this resolution.

Let it be published: Marked by the President:

VALVERDE.

*VI. Book No. 1833.*

*At Folio 6.*

No. 154.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ. January 16, 1893.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

That for expenses of the Colony of *Talamanca* there shall be paid to Señor William Hornell Reynolds, the amount of Six hundred pesos (\$600.00) and that this sum be charged to the contingent fund of Fomento.

Let it be communicated: Marked by the President:

VALVERDE.

*At Folio 15.*

No. 166.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ. January 28, 1893.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

From the contingent fund of this Secretaryship let there be paid to Don Carlos Gagini the sum of Two hundred pesos (\$200.00), for expenses in the execution of a commission in *Talamanca*.

Let it be communicated: Marked by the President:

VALVERDE.

It Conforms:

Given in the city of *San José, Costa Rica*, at 2 p. m., on the 13th of July, 1911, at the request of the Secretary of State in the Department of Foreign Affairs of this Republic.

GUILLERMO VARGAS,

Director.

(A seal which reads:

("Archivos Nacionales. San José.  
República de Costa Rica.")

Carlos María Jiménez Ortiz, Secretary of State in the Department of Government, certified:

That the foregoing signature of the Director of the National Archives and which literally reads: "Guillermo Vargas," is authentic.

*San José*, July 31, 1911.

CARLOS M. JIMÉNEZ.

(A seal which reads:

"Secretaría de Gobernación.  
Rep. de Costa Rica.")

Doc. 534

**Relation of the First Visit Made to Talamanca by Dr.  
Don Bernardo Augusto Thiel, Bishop of Costa Rica.**

1881.<sup>1</sup>

We, the Doctor Don Juan Gaspar Stork, Bishop of *San José de Costa Rica*, certify in due form,—

That in Book 2 of the Holy Visits of the Diocese of *Costa Rica*, which is kept in the Archives of this *Curia*, at folio 168, there is registered the document which literally reads:

*First Visit to Talamanca.*

On Thursday the 26th of June, 1881, the day of the Ascension of the Lord, after the mass and all being ready he took leave of the village (of *Térraba*). The people and the authorities accompanied him as far as the River of *Térraba*, he blessed the waters of the river and he crossed and for the last time he took leave of his beloved natives.

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<sup>1</sup> Archives of the Bishopric of Costa Rica.

That day he went as far as *San José Cavagra*. On the way there awaited him some *bizeitas*, who had not been able to come to *Térraba* and who begged him very anxiously for baptism and to be married. He instructed them and baptized them. As he was not able to register it he directed it to be put in the account of the visit. José Sebastián Calderón, aged 30: Godfather, Pedro Calderón. Juana Jesús Estrada, gave 25 years; Godmother, Francisca Estrada; both were married: Godparents the same as the baptism. There was baptized: María Dolores Calderón, daughter of the two *bizeitas* above mentioned, aged 5 years; Godmother Francisca Estrada. María Asunción Calderón, daughter of the same two *bizeitas* of 2 years of age: Godmother, Francisca Estrada. The place of the ceremony was at the entrance of the ravine of *Brujo* on the River *Grande*, the highway of *Térraba*.

In *Cavagra* the *bizeitas* had a spacious house placed at the disposal of the Bishop and his company. During the evening he said the Holy Rosary; two posts were despatched for the King of *Talamanca*.

On Friday, the 27th, he said the Holy Mass. The company or retinue of the Bishop was made up of 13 natives of *Boruca*, including the *Alcalde* and his brother who offered to accompany him; 12 natives of *Térraba*; 3 *bizeitas* of *Buenos Aires*, and 7 *bizeitas* recently baptized of *Cavagra*:—total 35 persons;—the Rev. Padre Hidalgo and Joaquín Páez. He took with him 6 calves of one year old, 2 from *Boruca*, 2 from *Térraba* and 2 from *Buenos Aires*, and two pairs of turkeys, all as a present for the Cacique of *Talamanca*: 3 mules and one ox as beasts of burden. On that day, Friday, at breakfast time, he arrived at *Yumín*, where there were 4 or 5 scattered houses of *bizeitas*. In one an Indian was found sick and he asked eagerly for the Holy Baptism, a favor which was granted in consideration of his condition and the good disposition which he showed. Likewise there was baptized the son of a *bizeita*, already a Christian, Francisco Rojas, aged 30: Godfather, Juan Vic. Rojas of *Térraba*. Valentín Rojas, two years old: Godfather, the same Juan Vic. Rojas. On Friday he reached as far as *Mueta*.

On Saturday, the 28th, they breakfasted at the headwaters of the River *Cavagra*, and in the evening they reached the head

waters of the Savanna of *Ulán*. The ox was left here and it was necessary to kill it, making use of a part of the meat.

Sunday, the 29th, they breakfasted at the entrance to the savanna of *Ulán*, at the spring of *Agua*; in the evening he reached *Cori*.

Monday, the 30th, he passed the Cordillera at the highest part, erected a cross and called the peak "*Crus del Obispo*" (The Bishop's Cross); he breakfasted on the other side of the Cordillera. In the evening he reached *Lari*.

Tuesday, the 31st, he went as far as *Dibus*. The work on these days was very hard. Everybody had to go on foot from the head of the River *Cavagrus*. A small bull was left in the Savanna of *Ulán*.

Wednesday, July 1st, the birthday of the Padre Don Manuel Hidalgo was celebrated with the last bottle of wine reserved already 14 days and sausages; the Indians all very merry. He breakfasted in *Iberi*, called the ravine of *Cangrejo*; here two mules were left entirely worn out. In the evening the Bishop reached *Bribri* all drenched, with only one *bizeita*. The Indians made some difficulty in receiving him, but at last they yielded to the kind words that were used toward them. The people came at seven in the evening.

The next day the Indians of the house asked for the Holy Baptism: one old blind woman of 85 to 90 years who received the name of María Concepción: Godfather, the Padre M. Hidalgo. María Asunción, daughter of the former, of 55 to 60 years: Godfather, the same. María Candelaria, of 20 years, daughter of the former: Godfather, the same. Rafael Hidalgo, 2 years, son of the sister of María Candelaria, who was not baptized, her husband not being present.

Thursday, June 2, he breakfasted at the River *Depari*; in the evening he reached *Cucuricho* at the hill of *Palmital*. That day the Bishop was so exhausted that he had to take off all his clothes and in drawers and shirt belonging to the natives he was able to complete the journey.

Friday, June 3, he breakfasted at *Curiquicha* in the Valley called *Quibo* at the cattle ranch of the Cacique of *Talamanca*. There were some ten head of cattle; in the evening he arrived at

*Duriguan*. On the way they met an Indian of the King who offered them roasted plantains, bacon and eggs.

Saturday, June 4, reached *Lari* the Cacique or Political Chief: he came with two horses to the river. The Bishop entered *Lari* on the only mule that had been able to get across the Cordillera. In the evening of the same day he visited Mr. Lyon, a North American, Secretary of the *Jefatura Política*. The natives came from all parts to see the Bishop. At first they were very reserved but little by little they came nearer.

On Sunday of Pentecost he said mass in *Lari* in the courtyard of the house of the Cacique, where the Indians had built an altar. Many Indians came to see the ceremonies. The same day he went to *Sipurio*, the residence of Mr. Lyon. In the house of Mr. Lyon were gathered the foreigners established in *Talamanca*, almost all protestants. Some begged the Bishop to marry them and this furnished the Bishop with an opportunity to speak to them as to being converted to Catholicism. Mr. Lyon belonging to the Church of England, Mr. Horatio A. Menish to the Scotch Presbyterian Church and Mr. Stuard of the Church of England, adjured their errors and were confessed. The wife of Mr. Lyon, a native, baptized by a Protestant Minister, and very ill, declared that she would follow her husband in everything and that she was a Catholic Christian. She was unable to be confessed yet on account of her illness. In the house of Mr. Lyon there were celebrated five baptisms of *bizaitas*, which items are in the possession of Mr. Lyon, one confirmation and five marriages, which items and the information are likewise in the possession of the Secretary of the *Jefatura*.

*Talamanca* is a part of the territory of *Costa Rica*, from the borders of the State of *Panama* to *Limón*. It is composed of two parts: *Lari* or the great *Talamanca* and *Estrella*. The great *Talamanca* has three *palenques* or districts: *Bribri*, *Urén* and *Cabéquer*, distant from the central point some two or three days. The roads are very difficult on account of the rivers and the many hills. The three *palenques* are in the Cordilleras: *Lari* is on the plain that extends toward the coast and it has an extension of about two or three days walk. The population amounts to 2,300 individuals, who live in scattered houses, distant from each other

2, 3 and more hours. They plant maize, plaintains, some beans and rice: they have sugar cane. Many are engaged in getting out sarsaparilla and rubber. There are very few cattle. Aside from the Cacique and the foreigners, who have some cattle, very few Indians have any animals. In the whole of *Talamanca* there are about eight horses. The rivers are navigable from *Lari* to the Sea. The descent is very rapid and only takes 7 or 8 hours; the ascent is very difficult and sometimes it takes two days. The *Talamancas* have their medicine men, who cure with stones, barnacles, monkeys, etc., they blow over the sick; they prescribe a diet. They have beside chanters; there are still five who sing for the dead according to a traditional ceremonial. The Bishop directed the chanters to be called and talked much with them by means of the interpreter, Mr. Lyon; he explained to them the principal mysteries of Christianity and found them well disposed to accept Christianity. In some of them he observed some repugnance, but in general a good disposition. Mr. Lyon and all the rest of the foreigners, as well as a great part of the *Talamancas* begged the Bishop to send them a priest to teach them and to put them in the way of true progress.

Tuesday, June 7, he departed from *Sipurio* at 11 in the morning, embarking on the river and he arrived that day at 4 in the afternoon at *Cuabre*, where he took a horse and arrived that same afternoon at *Oljava*, a village situated on the shore of the Sea.

Wednesday, June 8, at 3 in the afternoon he embarked at the little port, a point distant a half hour from *Oljava* and arrived at 6 at *Cahuíta*. In *Cahuíta* Mr. William Smith abjured his errors and was converted to Catholicism; thereupon he proceeded to the celebration of marriage between him and the Sra. Matilde Richardson: from *Cahuíta* he departed in two vessels at 12 at night for *Limón*, where he arrived at seven in the morning with a strong gale.

This conforms to the original to which we refer and for the purposes thereof in law and at the request of the Supreme Government we transcribe the present, which we sign in the Epis-



copal Palace of *San José de Costa Rica* on the twenty-seventh day of the month of May, one thousand nine hundred and eleven.

✠ JUAN GASPAR,  
Bishop of C. R.

Before me, MOISÉS RAMÍREZ, N. M.

A seál which says:

Evangelizare. Pauperibus. Misit. Me.

Dominus. Fide et Pace.

**The Chief of the Talamanca Tribes to the Minister of Doc. 535  
Worship of Costa Rica.**

TALAMANCA, August 1, 1881.<sup>1</sup>

No. 147.

To the Minister of Worship (*Culto*), of the Supreme Government, of the Republic:

SIR: One of the most notable occurrences recorded of *Talamanca* in its little history, is the unexpected pastoral visit, which, in the month of June, the Illustrious Señor Bishop of the Diocese made to us, a visit which has left us full of hope for the future, because he having studied close at hand our mode of life and the complete way in which we have been left behind, will be our best and most faithful pleader before the Supreme Government; and with the perseverance which characterizes him, he will secure the early and future welfare of these unfortunate tribes.

It seemed to us incredible, Mr. Minister, when we received the news that His Worship, from *Térraba* and crossing the great Cordillera was coming to visit us, and we did not believe it because we know the distance that separates us from that settlement, the ruggedness of the mountain and the almost impassible road, if it can be called a road, a mere path which we who are children of the country can travel over with difficulty; but his arrival in this valley, on the 5th day of June, after seven days of very hard travel, the greater part on foot because his mules were left in the depths of the Cordilleras, it has demonstrated to us that the devotion of His Worship in the fulfillment of his sacred

<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Secretaryship of Government. Year 1881.

duties as a pastor of his character, is proverbial and one of his great virtues. Many Indians went out to meet him and during the three days that he remained with us we had the happiness of hearing him celebrate the holy sacrifice of the Mass to us, being present every night at the teaching exercises, which were conducted for us by the honorable Presbítero, Señor Hidalgo, who accompanied His Worship.

These few days were enough for him to know the desire we have to enter into the temple of the Holy Religion, for he saw the enthusiasm with which, both the natives and some foreigners hastened to be married and have their children baptized. The good disposition of the Indians was a satisfaction for His Worship and made his stay here a pleasant one.

On the 8th of the month he bade us farewell, leaving us much grieved over the separation, but at the same time resigned to it for we have faith in his protecting hand, fortified with the efficacious help of our Supreme Government, and that we shall walk in the way of civilization, so that emerging from the darkness in which we find ourselves we shall know how to praise the God of all men and be useful to the fatherland where we have seen the light.

We are expecting a Cure of souls that His Holiness offered to send to live among us and we await it with eagerness as the first step which shall be given in the direction of our welfare.

In addressing myself to the Minister, informing him as to this matter, I am much pleased to subscribe myself your humble and obedient servant,

ANTONIO ZALDAÑA.

Juan H. Lyon, Secretary and Director of the Tribes of *Talamanca*.

Doc. 536

### Appointments of Curates of Talamanca.

SAN JOSÉ, 1881-1896.

We, the Doctor Don Juan Gaspar Stork, Bishop of *Costa Rica*, certify in canonical form:

That in the Book of Resolutions (*Libro de Acuerdos*), existing in the archives of this *Curia*, and which includes the month of September, 1881, at folios 74 and 75 I find, registered the agreement which reads literally:

"We, Bernardo Augusto Thiel, by the grace of God and the Holy Apostolic See, Bishop of the Diocese of *San José de Costa Rica*.

No. 70.

"It being necessary for the greater honor of God and the welfare of souls to designate a priest who shall reside in *Talamanca* and visit the villages and hamlets that compose it, as also the villages and hamlets of *Estrella*, in order that, by imploring the Divine help the heathen natives thereof may be brought within the fold of Our Holy Religion, and having full confidence in the ability, benevolence and good will that concur in the Presbiter, Don Manuel Hidalgo Bonilla, for this work, we have decided to appoint him and we do appoint him Resident Priest and Visitor of the aforesaid villages, with the powers necessary for the instruction of converts, the administration of sacraments, performing marriages and exercising all the functions that of right belong to parochial curates.

"His Cural jurisdiction shall extend, until the locations are better known, from the crest of the Cordillera of the Andes, to a distance of three leagues from the shores of the Atlantic, from West to East; and from North to South, from the limits of the district of *Limón* as far as the boundaries with the United States of *Colombia*.

"The priest appointed shall enjoy the monthly subvention of sixty *pesos* which the Supreme Government has granted, from the day that he starts to his post, and he shall accept the personal services and the provisions that may be offered to him by the natives, provided that these are given of their free will, without his having any right to require them.

"Let this be communicated to whom it may concern.

"Done in our Episcopal Palace of *San José*, at 1 P. M. of the sixteenth of September of One thousand eight hundred and eighty-one.

✠ BERNARDO AUGUSTO,  
Bishop of San José de C. R.

Before me: Juan Rafael Mata."

It is correct:

And for the legal purposes thereof and at the petition of the Supreme Government, we extend the present, which we sign

in the Episcopal Palace of *San José of Costa Rica*, on the ninth day of the month of February, one thousand nine hundred and eleven.

✠ JUAN, GASPAR,

(A seal says:

Bishop of Costa Rica.

*Evangelizare Pauperibus Misit Me Dominum.*

*Fide et Pace.*)

Before me: Moisés Ramírez, N. M.

We, the Doctor Don Juan Gaspar Stork, by the grace of God and of the Holy Apostolic See, Bishop of *Costa Rica*.

We certify in canonical form:

That in the Book of Resolutions (*Libro de Acuerdos*), existing in the archives of this *Curia*, and which includes the month of August of 1894, at folio 213, and under No. 218, is registered the resolution of the tenor following:

"We, Bernardo Augusto Thiel, by the grace of God and of the Holy Apostolic See, Bishop of the diocese of *San José de Costa Rica*:

"By the present there is appointed Curate of the Parish or Mission of *Limón*, the Presbiter Don José Vicente Krautwig, to whom we at the same time entrust the territory of *Talamanca*. The new Curate shall receive the salary which the Government has designated for the Curate of *Limón*, and the salary which has been offered to the Priest who ministers in *Talamanca* and the other emoluments produced according to law and the custom of the diocese by that Parish. We give to the new Curate all the powers that incumbents of parishes legally have, including that of celebrating marriages, with the authority to delegate them to the Priest or Priests who may assist him in the administration of the Mission of *Talamanca*. The new Curate shall take the Parish by an inventory, signed in duplicate by himself and his predecessor, one copy of which shall be sent to the *Curia Ecclesiástica* and the other shall be kept in the archives of the Parish.

Let it be transcribed: Episcopal Palace, *San José*, the twenty-eighth day of the month of August, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four.

✠ BERNARDO AGUSTO,  
Bishop of C. R.

Before me: Moisés Ramírez, N. M.

(On the margin it says:

Presbiter J. V. Krautwig, Curate of *Limón*.)

It is correct.

And for the legal purposes thereof, and at the petition of the Supreme Government, we extend the present, which we sign in the Episcopal Palace of *San José*, on the ninth day of the month of February, one thousand nine hundred and eleven.

✠ JUAN GASPAR,  
Bishop of C. R.

(There is seal which says:

*Evangelizare Pauperibus Misit*

*Me Dominus: Fide et Pace.*

Before me: Moisés Ramírez, N. M

We, the Doctor Don Gaspar Stork, Bishop of *Costa Rica*.

We certify in canonical form:

That in the Book of Resolutions (*Libro de Acuerdos*), existing in the archives of this *Curia*, and which includes the month of January, 1896, at folios 278 and 279, there appears and under No. 5 is registered the resolution, which reads literally:

"We, Bernardo Augusto Thiel, by the grace of God and of the Holy Apostolic See, Bishop of *San José de Costa Rica*:

"The Civil Government having granted a monthly subvention for the Mission of *Talamanca* and the Superiors of the Congregation of the Mission having permitted the Presbiter, Don J. V. Krautwig, present Curate of *Limón*, to take charge of the Mission of *Talamanca*, leaving the administration of *Limón*, by the present resolution we establish definitely the Mission of *Talamanca*, designating as its territory all the region that is known under the name of *Talamanca*, and we add to it the territories that are traversed by the River *Estrella* and the River *Chirripó* in their upper part, before uniting with the *Moravia*, the boundaries to be fixed with more exactness, as soon as the territory shall be better known.

"We designate as the compensation of the Missionary the monthly subvention of one hundred and fifty *pesos* designated by the Civil Government for the Missionary and Coadjutor of *Talamanca*.

"We grant to him all the powers that by law belong to incumbents of parishes, including that of performing marriages, and besides we renew in favor of the Mission of *Talamanca* all the special powers we have granted in his former capacity as Curate of *Limón*, dated August 28, 1894, November 8, 1894, and December 6, 1894.

"We charge the Missionary that he shall locate a central station in the neighborhood of the place where the civil authorities of *Talamanca* shall be situated, and also small stations auxiliary thereto in the different tribes of *Talamanca* and *Estrella* and *Chirripó*.

Let it be communicated.

Done in our Episcopal Palace of *San José*, on the twenty-seventh day of the month of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six.

✠ BERNARDO AUGUSTO,  
Bishop of *Costa Rica*.

By order of His Worship Antonio del C. Zamora.

It is correct:

And for the legal purposes thereof, we extend the present at the petition of the Supreme Government, which we sign in the Episcopal Palace of *San José*, on the ninth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and eleven.

✠ JUAN GASPAS,  
Bishop of C. R.

(There is seal which says:

*Evangelizare Pauperibus Misit*  
*Me Dominus. Fide et Pace.)*

Before me: Moisés Ramírez. N. M.

## Record of a Cabinet Meeting.

Doc. 537

PRESIDENTIAL PALACE. SAN JOSÉ, November 10, 1881.<sup>1</sup>

At a meeting of the Honorable Señores, the Secretaries of State Guardia, Castro, Argüello and Lizano in Council, presided over by the Excmo. Señor Designated to exercise the Executive Power, there were considered the documents presented by Don Juan H. Lyon, in support of a claim for account of services rendered to the Government from the year 1867, in the capacity of Secretary of the *Jefatura Política* of *Talamanca*, for which he has received no remuneration; considering that Señor Lyon has actually rendered important services in those isolated regions, contributing in a large degree to the conquest and civilization thus far attained among the tribes which inhabit that portion of the Republic; and that although in the documents presented there are noted some informalities, the Government deems such claim a just one, in virtue of which it is agreed to remunerate Señor Don Juan H. Lyon with the sum of two thousand pesos for the services for which he claims payment, and that it shall be paid as follows: \$500 in cash; \$500 in three months; \$500 in six, and \$500 in nine months; and to assign to him, from this date forward, the monthly salary of forty pesos, as such Secretary of the said *Jefatura*, there being included in this assignment the expenses for satationery and office. Ended.

(A flourish).

GUARDIA-LIZANO-CASTRO-ARGUELLO.

## Resolutions Relating to Talamanca.

Doc. 538

No. 543.

1881-1890.

Guillermos Vargas Calvo, Director General of the National Archives, Certifies:

That in the "*Libros de Acuerdos*" (Resolutions Books) of the office of Secretary of State, in the Department of Police, kept in the archives of this office and belonging to the years 1881 to 1890, the numbers of which are hereafter given, and at the folios also stated, there are found extended with the formalities prescribed by law, duly signed and marked by the high functionaries

<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Book of the Government Council No. 1318.

authorized to do it, the following governmental minutes which, with the public authority with which I am invested, I certify are authentic, and literally copied from the original with which I have compared them, they state:

*I. Book No. 1355.*

*At Folio 24.*

No. 9. NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ, June 21, 1881.

Present: General Don Víctor Guardia, Secretary of War and Marine, Don Saturnino Lizano, Secretary of Government, Worship and *Beneficencia*; Licenciante Don León Fernández, Secretary of the Treasury, Commerce and Police; Licentiate Don Bruno Carranza, President of the Grand National Council; Don Braulio Morales; Don Luis Sáenz; the Presbyter Don Ramón J. Cabezas; Don A. de Jesús Soto; Don Pedro Zamora and Lic. Don Jesús Solano, Councilors; under the Presidency of the Most Excellent Don Salvador Lara, Vice-President in exercise of the Executive Power;

With the purpose of considering and deciding the proceedings begun to ascertain the authors, accomplices and abettors of the revolution attempted on the 30th of April last past in this Capital, as well as the assassination perpetrated upon the person of Colonel Don Raimundo Jiménez, connected with the revolution:

The process being read and duly discussed, H. E. the Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power, in conformity with the vote of the Grand National Council and of the aforesaid Secretaries of State, it is agreed:

1. That the criminals Rudesindo Segura, Francisco Abella, Santiago Granados and Vicente Brizuela, together with the others guilty of the crime of assassination, shall be subject to the Communal Tribunals, attesting therefor all that is proper:

2. That Don Demetrio Tinoco, Don Angel Miguel Velázquez and Don Rafael Iglesias, shall be confined until further order at *Talamanca* and placed under the guard of the *Jefe Político* of that place, first giving bonds to the satisfaction of the attorney of the Republic that they will not violate their confinement, the first in the sum of ten thousand pesos and the two latter for one thousand pesos each, in default of which they shall remain in prison.



3. That Don Francisco María Iglesias and other persons who are detained on account of said revolution, be set at liberty.

S. Lizano, V. Guardia, B. Carranza, León Fernández, A. de Jesús Soto, Ramón J. Cabezas, J. Solano, Braulio Morales, Pedro Zamora.

The Councillor of State who subscribes states that his vote as to what should be done with Don Demetrio Tinoco, Don Angel Miguel Velázquez and Don Rafael Iglesias was that they should be compelled to leave exiled from the country and not be kept in any place whatever in the Republic.

He conforms to the rest stated in this document.

LUIS D. SÁENZ.

## II. Book No. 1353.

*At Folio 65.*

No. 210.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, December 10, 1883.

In view of the matters stated by the Governor of the District of *Limón*, in official document No. 829, addressed to this Secretaryship, dated the 6th of the current month, it is Resolved:

Let the said Governor be authorized, so that during the time of the next holidays he may appoint in the settlement of "*Estrella*," two Police Agents, for the purpose of keeping order in the said locality. The salary earned by the said Police Agents shall be charged to the contingent fund of the Bureau.

Let it be communicated: Marked by H. E., the President of the Republic.

GUARDIA.

## III. Book No. 1353.

*At Folio 17.*

No. 31.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, July 3, 1884.

The Governor of the District of *Limón*, having reported in official communication No. 781, of June 10th last, that the natives of *Talamanca* are exploited and barbarously treated by some

bandits who have come into that territory, and that the authority of the *Jefe Político* and his Secretary is powerless to repress such actions; H. E., the President of the Republic, Resolves:

To send to *Talamanca* an armed expedition of eight to ten soldiers, under the command of General Don Federico Fernández and an officer, so that in accord with the police authorities of the locality he may proceed to remedy the evils from which those natives suffer; arresting, so that they may be tried according to the laws, all the evil doers that are found in *Talamanca* and the immediate localities. The expenses caused by the execution of this commission shall be charged to the general account of the Police Bureau.

By order of H. E., the General President:

Soto.

*At Folio 21.*

No. 37.

NATIONAL PALACE,  
SAN JOSÉ, July 19, 1884.

The Executive Power, Resolves:

Let General Don Vicente Vargas be confined in the settlement of *Talamanca*, and in the city of *Liberia* the sub-lieutenant Don Manuel Antonio Gallegos.

Let it be communicate: Marked by His Excellency, the General President.

Soto.

*At Folio 26.*

No. 44.

NATIONAL PALACE,  
SAN JOSÉ, August 21, 1884.

H. E., the General President of the Republic, Resolves:

Let there be paid from the police contingent fund the sum of twenty-four pesos, which, according to the statement of General Don Federico Fernández, in a communication of this date, are due to Señor Roberto Campbell of *Limón*, for provisions which he provided in 1881 for the expedition which went to *Talamanca* in the said year under the command of the same Señor Fernández.

Marked by H. E., the worthy General President.

Soto.

*At the same Folio:*

No. 45.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, August 21, 1884.

H. E. the General President of the Republic, Resolves:

Let there be paid from the Police contingent fund, to General Don Federico Fernández, the sum of sixteen pesos and fifty centavos, for balance due of the expenses to which the foregoing item refers.

Marked by H. E., the General President.

SOTO.

*At Folio 138.*

No. 108.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, September 1, 1885.

H. E., the General President of the Republic, Resolves:

To pay from the Police contingent fund the sum of Twenty-nine pesos and eighty-five centavos (\$29.85), value of provisions taken from the store of Señor W. B. Unckles, by Doctor Don José María Castro Fernández, for the expedition to *Talamanca* which was entrusted to him. The respective account is marked with No. 74, and dated August 26 last past.

Let it be communicated. Marked by H. E., the General President.

DURÁN.

*At Folio 151.*

No. 125.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, September 26, 1885.

H. E. the President of the Republic, Resolves:

To remunerate with the sum of Three hundred pesos (\$300.00) from the contingent fund of this Bureau, Doctor Don José María Castro Fernández, for his professional services given to the inhabitants of *Talamanca*, by special commission from the Government, by reason of the plague to which the people of that territory were recently subject.

Let it be communicated. Marked by H. E., the General President.

DURÁN.

*At Folio 163:*

No. 135.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, October 15, 1885.

H. E., the General President of the Republic, Resolves:

To pay from the contingent fund of this Bureau the sum of One hundred and fifteen pesos and seventy-five centavos, to cover the expenses incurred by Doctor Don José María Castro Fernández, on the commission that he executed in *Talamanca*, according to proved account No. 90.

Let it be communicated. Marked by H. E., the General President:  
DURÁN.

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*IV. Book No. 1352.*

*At Folio 153:*

No. 67.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, September 1, 1886.

The General President of the Republic, Resolves:

From the Contingent Police Fund let there be paid to Señores Soto and Bonnefil the sum of Fifty-eight pesos, twenty-five centavos, for medicines furnished for the Colony of *Talamanca*, according to account presented.

Let it be communicated. Marked by the General President:

DE LA GUARDIA.

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*V. Book No. 1357.*

*At Folio 1.*

No. 81.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, June 27, 1887.

In view of the fact that Señor Temístocles Peñaranda, *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, was authorized by the Government to appoint two policemen in said Colony, with the monthly salary of Twenty-five pesos each; and that these employees completed on the last day of the current month four months and a half of service, which has in part been paid by the said *Jefe Político* with the proceeds of the sale of some oxen and a cart of the

national property, leaving unpaid the amount of Seventy-two pesos to satisfy the said compensation until the day mentioned. The President of the Republic, Resolves:

That there be paid to Don Temístocles Peñaranda the said sum of Seventy-two pesos, from the Police Contingent Fund.

Let it be communicated: SOTO.

The Secretary of State in the Department of Police:

GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

*At Folio 2.*

No. 82.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, June 27, 1887.

In view of the fact that the preservation of order in the Colony of *San Bernado* in *Talamanca* demands that the services be continued of the two policemen appointed by the *Jefe Político* of that Colony on the 15th of February last past, with the authority of the Government, whose salary has been ordered to be paid up to the last day of the current month, the President of the Republic, Resolves:

That said employees are to be included from the month of July next, in the service list of Police of the District of *Limón*, with the salary of Twenty-five pesos monthly, each one, which shall be paid from the contingent fund of this Bureau.

Let it be communicated. SOTO.

The Secretary of State in the Department of Police: González Víquez.

*At Folio 6.*

No. 93.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, August 4, 1887.

The Vice-President in exercise of the Presidency of the Republic, Resolves:

From the Police contingent fund, let there be paid to the order of the 1st Principal of Police, the amount of Eleven pesos (\$11.00). for the transportation of four persons indicted for vagrancy, to the territory of *Talamanca*.

The Sub-secretary in charge of the Department of Police:

JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

*At Folio 48:*

No. 210.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, March 17, 1888.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

From the contingent fund of this Bureau, let there be paid to the order of Don Domingo Carranza, the sum of Fifty pesos (\$50.) for his services rendered at the inquest held in *Talamanca* against Don Temístocles Peñaranda, for abuses of authority.

Let it be communicated: By order of the President of the Republic and by the Minister of that Branch; The Sub-secretary,  
JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

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*At Folio 52.*

No. 221.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, April 6, 1888.

In view of the fact that the Government had sent to the Colony of *San Bernardo* in *Talamanca* a garrison of military, with instructions to render their assistance to the *Jefe Político* of the same in the exercise of the authority, the services of the subaltern agents of Police, employed in that place, are no longer necessary, the President of the Republic, Resolves:

To abolish the said positions, and that this provision shall be in effect from the fifteenth day of this month. Soto.

The Sub-secretary of Police in charge of the Department:  
JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

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*At Folio 53.*

No. 224.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, April 17, 1888.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

From the contingent fund of this Bureau let there be paid to Don Francisco Estrada, the sum of Fifteen pesos (\$15.00), which shall be delivered to Señor Antonio Berch for his travelling expenses in returning to *Talamanca*.

Let it be communicated.

Soto.

The Sub-secretary of Police, in charge of the Department:  
JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

*At Folio 59.*

No. 242.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, June 16, 1888.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

From the contingent fund of this Bureau, let there be paid to the *Jefe Político* and Commandant of the Colony of *Talamanca*, the sum of Eighty-five pesos, seventy-five centavos, for various expenses incurred in the Commandancia of said Colony during the months of April and May last past.

Let it be communicated:

SOTO.

The Sub-secretary of Police in charge of the Department:

JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

*At Folio 65.*

No. 257.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, July 25, 1888.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

From the Police contingent fund, let there be paid to the order of the Ex-Commandant of the Colony of *Talamanca*, the sum of One hundred and forty-eight pesos and fifty centavos, for expenses incurred on a commission to *Holjaba*, forwarding a prisoner to this Capital, and transportation of the garrison that was sent to that Colony according to accounts presented.

Let it be communicated: Marked by the President of the Republic,

PÉREZ ZELEDÓN.

*At Folio 67.*

No. 259.

PALACIO NACIONAL,

SAN JOSÉ, July 28, 1888.

In view of the fact that in a memorial presented to this Secretaryship, it is declared that Señor Don Temístocles Peñaranda, a resident of *San Bernardo* in the territory of *Talamanca*, destroyed without authority a building designed for a Catholic Church, erected there at the expense of the Bishopric of this

Diocese, and used the materials obtained therefrom by such demolition, to build a house of his property:

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

To commission Don Jacinto Mora Castro to proceed to the Colony of *San Bernardo*, and in the capacity of special Principal Agent of Police to hold the necessary inquest there concerning the fact stated and take the proper legal proceedings as shall be required by the papers.

Marked by the President of the Republic:

PÉREZ ZELEDÓN.

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*At Folio 73.*

No. 11.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, August 23, 1888.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

That the contingent fund of this Bureau shall pay to the order of the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* the sum of Twenty-five pesos (\$25.00), amount of the rental of the quarters occupied by the garrison of *Talamanca*, during the month last past.

Let it be communicated: Marked by the President of the Republic,

FERNÁNDEZ.

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*At Folio 117.*

No. 8.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, April 23, 1888.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

That from the contingent fund of the Bureau of Police there shall be paid to Don Mateo Molina the amount of one hundred pesos in virtue of a commission that the Government has conferred upon him and which he should carry out in *Talamanca*.

Let it be communicated: Marked by the President of the Republic: The Minister of Police,

FERNÁNDEZ.



*At Folio 166.*

No. 123.

NATIONAL PALACE,  
SAN JOSÉ, October 16, 1889.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

That from the contingent fund of this Bureau there be paid to the order of Don Nicanor Sánchez the amount of Twenty-five pesos, as remuneration for services rendered on a commission to *Talamanca* which the Government entrusted to him.

Let it be communicated. Marked by the President:

GERARDO CASTRO, Under Secretary.

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*At Folio 192.*

No. 201.

NATIONAL PALACE,  
SAN JOSÉ, January, 1890.

Having seen the memorial submitted to this Secretaryship, by Don Leonidas Anderson, to the effect that there may be recognized to him the third part of his salary as policeman in the Colony of *Talamanca*, on account of illness, and having seen the legal medical certificate, it is Resolved:

To allow Señor Anderson the third part of his salary during the months of December last and January of the present year.

Let it be communicated: By order of the Señor Designated: The Secretary of State in the Department of Police:

ALVARADO.

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It conforms:

Given in the city of *San José, Costa Rica*, at 1 p. m. of July 12, 1911, at the request of the Secretary of State in the Department of Foreign Affairs of this Republic.

GUILLERMO VARGAS

(A seal which says:

"Archivos Nacionales. San José  
Republica de Costa Rica.")

Carlos María Jiménez Ortiz, Secretary of State in the Department of Government, certifies:

That the foregoing signature of the Director of the National Archives, which literally reads: "Guillermo Vargas," is authentic.

San José, July 31, 1911.

CARLOS M. JIMÉNEZ.

(A seal which reads:

"Secretaría de Gobernación.  
República de Costa Rica.")

Doc. 539

### Report of the Governor of Limón.

No. 799.

To the Minister of Government and Police,  
San José.

LIMÓN, September 30, 1882.<sup>1</sup>

I take pleasure in complying with my duty by informing Yr. Hon. that during the month which ends today the most noteworthy occurrences are the following:

The arrival at the port of some steamers of new lines. The return from *Talamanca* and from the South Coast of the District of the Illustrious and Rev. Sr. Bishop of the Republic, on his official visit and continuation of this visit by the same Señor, in company with the undersigned Governor, to the District of *Parismina* and *Tortuguero*. The Illustrious Prelate of the Costarican church, occupied in his noble and holy evangelical mission, wherever he has been, filling with joy the inhabitants of the District with his example and his presence. This important visit of the Ill. and Rev. Bishop will terminate with an excursion along the railway, with stops at the various centres of population that are found there.

After the Bishop had arrived at this Port, the *Jefe Político* or "King of *Talamanca*," came here, and various other Indians of that jurisdiction, on their way to your Capital, with a view of becoming acquainted with it and also with the persons of the Supreme Government. The public health of the District, at the beginning of the month, was bad, by reason of two cases of small pox which occurred, and of which you already have been informed. Fortunately no other cases have occurred, and the two

<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Secretaryship of Government. Year 1882.

parties attacked are now perfectly well, the quarantine consequently to which these persons were subject has been raised. The District physician, Dr. Ulloa, has vaccinated more than 100 persons, children and adults, there being included in this number all the Indians from *Talamanca* who has arrived at this Port at this time. So that, it appears, that with this foresighted measure the epidemic of small pox which at first threatened us in an alarming manner has been prevented. Otherwise the sanitary condition of the District is now fair; although I can not say that it is very good because there are some cases of billious fever on the railway line, which are attributed to the clearing of woods and the dryness of the season, which changed in the last two days of the month and we are having abundant rains.

The generality of the inhabitants of the District continue to apply themselves to their agricultural tasks, hoping for the next Summer season to reap the benefit of the business that promises in the next coffee harvest which is exported through this Port.

Separately I will have the honor to forward to you a special report concerning my official trip to *Parismina* and *Tortuguero*.

With the greatest consideration I have the honor to subscribe myself your very obedient servant,

ALBERTO MOYA.

### Report of the Governor of Limón.

Doc. 540

No. 954.

To the Minister of Government,  
San José.

LIMÓN, November 16, 1882.<sup>1</sup>

Duly advised by the interesting note of Yr. Hon. of the 10th instant, No. 42, which I received today, in which you are pleased to transcribe for me the report, dated the 8th instant, by the Ill. and Rev. Señor Bishop to the Hon. Minister of Worship, concerning his official visit to the territory of *Talamanca* and to this Coast, I am pleased to acknowledge their receipt and at the same time to advise you that as soon as the Ill. and Rev. Sr. Bishop brought to my knowledge the acts referred to in his report of the immoral custom of some of the Indian women of *Talamanca*.

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<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Secretaryship of Government. Year 1882.

tending to prevent succession, I wrote officially, on the 5 of last month, in a strict and energetic manner to the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* with the purpose of preventing any further progress of so grave an evil.

Regarding what is mentioned in the said report referring to Emeterio, I will say that this Indian when I heard of his bad actions in *Estrella*, I ordered his arrest and he escaped from the prison, but recently his mother sent a commission of natives to beg this Government that he be permitted to return to his own country, as he was in the neighborhood of *Bocas del Torro*. I said to the commission that Emeterio can be presented to this Government and afterwards he could go back to his family; but when that individual is presented here I will send him with all security to your Capital.

It would really be very desirable if the District Physician would make a monthly visit to *Talamanca* and *Estrella*, Although it is not possible to fix the expense of it because it depends upon the time that it take for the physician to make the trip to those places.

The bad weather does not permit me at present to make an official visit to *Talamanca* and *Estrella*; but I reserve such visit to be made as soon as the bad weather passes.

With the greatest consideration, I subscribe myself of Your Honor the very obedient servant,

ALBERTO MOYA.

**Doc. 541** Relation of the Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Visits Made to Talamanca by Dr. Don Bernardo Augusto Thiel, Bishop of Costa Rica.

1882-1890.

We, the Dr. Don Gaspar Stork, Bishop of *San José de Costa Rica*, certify in due form: That in Books 3 and 4 of the Holy Visits (*Santa Visita*) which are kept in the archives of this *Curia*, at folios 266 of Book 3 and folios

144 and 201 of Book 4, there are registered the documents which literally state:

*Book 3. Page 266.*

"1882. Visit to the territory of *Talamanca, Estrella, River Banana, Limón*, Coast of *Parishmina*, and *Tortuguero*, and the line of the railway as far as the River *Sucio*.

This visit, so necessary and difficult, was begun on August 21. At \* \* \* in the morning of this day the Ill. and Rev. Sr. Bishop, accompanied by the Prebs. Don Luis Hidalgo and the Father José Badilla, mounted their horses on the way for the River *Sucio*. At 12 o'clock they arrived at *Laguna*, where they breakfasted, and from there proceeded, reaching the River *Sucio* at 2.30 p. m. At 3.30 the undersigned, Curate of *Limón*, came to meet them, having to accompany them on their journey.

The next morning the Padre Luis bade us farewell and the rest took the special train which left for *Limón* at 8 in the morning. Nothing special happened on this trip, except that Señor Smitt, in charge of the house of "Uncles" did not accept any pay for the breakfast that he served us at River *Jiménez*. The owner and the Overseer are Protestants. We arrived at *Limón* at 4 and right at the corner of the Plaza the Governor came to meet H. W., with some employees, who asked if he desired to stop in the Government Building, and the offer being accepted we went to that house, where there was no indication that our visit was expected: however, the dinner was entrusted to a hotel and at 5 p. m. it was served in a corridor of the Government Building, with two invited guests: Señor Ramírez, Treasurer of the District, and Señor Castro Carrillo, the only *Alcalde*, one of them giving a toast in praise of H. M. and stating a heated dispute concerning the religious indifference which prevailed in *Limón*, to which the Curate put an end explaining the causes which produced that indifference, the principal being the bad example shown by employees in that place, who did not take part in the religious ceremonies on holidays. The Captain of the Port, Sr. Brealey, took charge of the necessary equipment for the boat, which was to take us to *Oljaba* and this was so well done that at seven in the evening we were all ready on the wharf

for departure. The Padre Don José Badilla bade farewell to H. W.; the servants were despatched by land for *Sipurio* and the baggage was put in the boat. At 7.30 we were under way, with a calm sea, carried along by the breeze and by 11 the calm was so complete that it was only with oars that we were able to reach *Cahuíta* by 6 in the morning. A cup of coffee in the house of Sr. Schmitt soon put us all right after the bad night and at 9 we left for *Oljaba*, where we arrived at 2 p. m.

This port is the one called *Puerto Viejo* (Old Harbour); and it has all the requirements for receiving small vessels and steam-vessels, for it is very open for the departure of large vessels when the North wind is strong, which happens almost always. The beach is of very fine black sand, a yard or more in depth. As it threatened to rain and no laborers were to be seen anywhere we carried the baggage to a hut near where we landed, and where we dined and breakfasted. Thus our strength being regained, the Sr. Bishop determined to go to the house of Don Horacio Magus (Horecio), distant a half mile; some remained caring for the baggage and the others went in his company. We did not meet the Indians here who were to carry the baggage, so that we could march at once, and the night coming on the Sr. Bishop decided to wait there and determine what to do. The family of Don Horacio was absent and so we had to content ourselves with the attentions of a bashful boy in charge of the house, who even hesitated to give us a bed to rest on. At last some in the hut near the beach and others in the house, we slept, not so badly as we had thought to in the beginning. Here we met Chico Costa Rica and his wife, who accompanied H. W. to *San José* on his first journey.

At dawn on the 24th, Thursday, the Señor Bishop celebrated the Holy Sacrifice and at the moment of the elevation the sun came out of the Sea which we had before our eyes. God in the most holy Sacrament showed us his love and as the Holy Sacrifice was lifted up how our hearts were warmed with Divine fervor. The sun gives life to the earth with its heat and the Creator and the creature in that moment are face to face in the fulfillment of their destinies. I will warm you with rays of charity, so that carrying my Gospel to the most distant lands they may become civilized, said the one. I will veil my rays, so that you

may not be hindered in your enterprise, said the other. And so it happened. God gave us assistance and the elements favored our expedition.

This is a very healthful place, where the said Indian Horecio lives, married the year before by His Rev. to a creole mixed with Indian of *Talamanca* and Colombian. He has a usual clearing, with yuca, cane and maize, all of a very good class and a mill which he operates with horses and makes sugar that he sells to the *Talamanca* Indians. It is at this particular place that the clearing and the road that leads to the river, at the point called *Surecta*, it was ordered to be built many years ago by the Political Chief of *Moin* at the cost of the district, in order to facilitate communication with *Talamanca*. After breakfast the Bishop went to the River *Sixaola* with a guide to investigate the reason why the Indians did not come and not finding any one continued on in a canoe as far as *Sipurio*, where he arrived in the morning of the 25th.

I remained in *Oljaba* until the last of the baggage was taken away by different parties of Indians who were arriving and on Saturday, the 26th, at 7 a. m., I left with the rest of the expedition for the river, where we arrived in three hours. I found a large canoe and having loaded the baggage we went up as far as *Sibube*, reaching that point at 1 p. m. This is a place worthy of a better fate. It is very healthful, located on a table-land more than fifty feet above the level of the river which here is very smooth. There are only two houses: one of Señor Peñaranda and the other of one Serapio living with an Indian woman who abandoned him about that time. The former kept up a trade with the interior, on account of the convenience of transporting all kinds of products from *Bocas del Toro* and the second has cattle, gathers rubber and sarsaparilla. Here there must have existed during the period of the Spanish domination a settlement of the 14 who made up the district of *Talamanca*, for there are various clearings, some covered with forage and others with younger trees than the rest of the mountain. There is much game, especially fowls and wild turkeys. Here it may be said that the traveller takes breath, for the rest of the river is of hard work and dangerous. Navigation is easy to here for vessels drawing five feet.

We continued our journey at 2 p. m. by a river which is indescribable. Sometimes it appeared like an immense lake, at other times it was a dangerous rapids; sometimes the borders are immense walls covered with and overshadowed by trees that seemed as if suspended from the heavens by magic or an invisible cord; at other times there were beautiful shores of gravel, covered with bushes or wild cane suitable for the food of cattle, while at other places it was barren, which showed the frequent overflowing of the river. It is winding and presents at every turn the most charming vistas which make one forget the danger of the ascent by pushing with a pole and insupportable heat at certain hours. The Bishop traversed it in the night, but I preferred to die of heat than to be drowned by some neglect of the boatmen. It was impossible to reach *Sipurio*, and so as the night was already coming on we landed at a farm called *Hedi*, where we breakfasted and slept well.

Sunday the 27th broke rainy and with the idea of saying mass at *Sipurio* I made haste to embark. However much the boatmen tried it was not possible to reach before 10 a. m. the union of the Rivers *Thu* and *Urén*, which form the *Sixola*. We left the revolting waters of the T... and we took the crystal stream of the *Urén*, which we sailed for two hours, being able to reach at 12 the Church of *Talamanca*.

Here the Bishop was installed in the parish house and all the baggage was carried there from the river, a distance of hardly fifteen minutes. We began already to arrange for the trip to *San José Cabécar*, the ancient headquarters of the district and now the residence of the *Usecra* or Grand High Priest of the Indians. We remained, however, all of the 28th at *Sipurio* and we celebrated the Holy Sacrifice at different hours, at which were present the Secretary of the Political Chief, Sr. Lyon, who had been baptized and married during the first journey, and various Indians taught by the Sr. Curate Manuel Hidalgo.

Here we were informed of the difficulties that are met with in the teaching of the Indians and we were pleased with the moral and material progress of that parish. Difficulties were presented by the influence of the Grand High Priest (*Gran Sacerdote*) and of the Under-Priests, Chanters or inferior ministers. These petitioned the *Usecra* that he would blow upon the Padre Hi-



dalgo, so that he might be driven out of the country or become ill. It is necessary to explain this in order that it may be understood. According to their beliefs the *Usecra* has a great cave (which no one has seen and he only knows the place where it is); in it he prays asking God for what they need and then takes the *Flor de la Balsa* or some other poisonous herb, or also by means of a *Guacamayo* (macaw) or deplumed cock if it is not possible to give the poison to the person. After this is done, whether it happens or not as he pretends, he collects from each resident what they can give, such as clothing, animals, bead-work, and other things which they have been able to get together with great labor. When once in a thousand times what he prays for happens by natural means, this strengthens their belief until they have in this impostor a **blind faith and fear the harm** that may come to their house or family from his incantations. In this case the Padre Hidalgo was afflicted with rheumatic pains and very soon the *Usecra* came to *Sipurio* to collect for his work, for which his initiates religiously paid him. He was present in the house of the Political Chief and there they ate their presents, taking home only some clothing and some pieces of *mastate*, for the Indian never keeps anything to eat until tomorrow; if he cannot finish it, he excites his appetite by a gathering of friends. They give poison in the cacao and it is very rare that it has effect. Withal the Padre maintained himself in the country and thanks to the care of Mr. Lyon was able to maintain himself until our arrival and even to make some progress in the teaching and civilization of the Indians. There were baptized 260 persons and he celebrated 25 marriages, it being now very easy to find *peones* and carry on conversation in their language with those who are already Christian.

In the evening of the same 28th the Rosary was recited in the church and the word of God was declared to the congregation and many Indians who were present.

In the morning of the 29th, after the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice, we started on horseback for our journey to *San José Cabécar* at 8 a. m. We reached the house of the Chief at 9.30 a. m. This road is level, very clean and wide, shaded from one side to the other by fine trees that show by their size that they are young. Here Professor Hübach found an orchard unknown

to science. At 10 a. m. we proceeded on our way, accompanied by the Chief and some Indians. We crossed the River *Lari* with some difficulty and after crossing it we found some two miles from the river a large hut, deserted, but surrounded by extensive plaintain plantations which they told us had belonged to the Chief Santiago, assassinated in some contentions over succession some years ago. Here was encamped the army of 500 Indians, while Señor Lyon the representative of the Government of *Costa Rica*, with 60 followers, was able to maintain himself. These contentions have completely disappeared, for the Indians are not lovers of strife but of a life without action and indolent, in which they can provide for their few wants with plantains and wild hogs' flesh, so abundant in that country.

At 11.30 we arrived at *Naibla*, where there is a hut on which an Indian lived named Bron, not yet a Christian, but he manifested a desire to be one, as well as his wife. The latter was painted with two spots of dark cinnamon color on either side of each cheek, a paint which they make from the juice of a bark of a tree and red earth. Here we breakfasted and proceeded on our way through deserted pasture fields of thick grass. We also passed by narrow pathways quite covered with reeds, which made it very difficult for a horse to get through. At one o'clock we arrived at a hut which is near the River *Coén*, where we left the horses and we met the *peones* who carried the baggage and who were to serve us as guides in order to proceed on our journey.

Serious difficulties confronted us at the crossing of the river, but at last we reached the other bank without anything happening, continuing on up to the top of the mountain. Here we found a large hut and differing from the rest in its oblong shape. More than four families were living there, who received us without any fear; and it being 3 p. m. the Bishop determined to pass the night in this place. Each one put his load under cover from the rain that threatened to fall and the Bishop met a *Cabécar* Indian, to whom he gave instruction in that language, passing in this way the time till 9 p. m., when we recited the Holy Rosary and retired. In the afternoon the *peones* made an altar looking to the East, outside of the hut, with canes and decorated with branches of trees. He who was born in a poor gateway, in order

to teach the world the virtue of humility does not disdain the pure flowers of the mountains nor the virgin branches of the forest which formed on that occasion his throne.

The 30th of August had not yet dawned, on which day is celebrated the festival of Santa Rosa, the principal Patroness of the whole of America, when the Bishop called us all to be present at the Holy Sacrifice. The rain during the night had drenched the floor and the Indians very quickly cut a quantity of plain-tain leaves which served as a carpet. The lights on the altar did not waver and all Nature was hushed in order to contemplate for the first time the august mystery of the Altar. When the mass was ended the daybreak had already come and after taking a light breakfast we took up our march at 6 in the morning. In an hour we reached the last hut in that section called *Sioriñoc*, where we were treated with cacao and *chicha* (a beverage of the country).

The road here began to be more difficult: the river *Coén* which we had to cross five times discouraged us and it covered us several times with its rapid and abundant waters. Those were not roads: the Indian does not build highways, so that he may not be molested and he passes as if he were the last one and it was the last time that he should pass that way. He goes along the bank of the rivers and when an obstacle presents itself he crosses to the other side, and if he cannot proceed there he climbs the ridges and scales walls, for such certain broken places of this road can only be described, until he descends on the other side, again seeking the bank of the river. Worn out we arrived at 1 p. m. at the crest of a ridge that was 2,000 feet above the level of the sea. Here we took breakfast and renewed our strength in order to go down as we had come up. At last overcome, after having traversed extensive canefields, muddy quagmires and wide, very wide plain-tain plantations, we reached at 6.30 p. m. the hut of Valentín, at the place called *Cucute*, where we dined and without any care as to our beds we slept soundly.

It was already light when we awoke. In a short time the sun lit up the crests of the Cordilleras which we had before our eyes. "There is *Coctu*," said the Indians, pointing out a peak intermediate between the Andes and ourselves. Immense pasture fields surrounded it and in the highest we could see a hut that

they said was the habitation of the *Usecra*. After breakfast we descended to the river by a narrow path, which could only be compared to a steep cliff. It was 7 a. m. on the 31st of August when we crossed for the last time that day the tiresome river *Coén*. Once on the other bank we all proceeded on our journey, until we came to a hut where the unfortunate Dr. Gabb stopped and suffered for three days with fever some years before when he made his trip of exploration to *Talamanca*. According to what we were told by an old woman whom we found there, she was the same one who took care of him and the hut was in the same condition as then. From the time that we arrived she did not cease offering us "*chicha*," cacao and ripe roasted plantains, which some accepted and she told us that the night before three men and two women had gone by, escaping that way, saying that all should flee because many people were in pursuit of them: that as she harmed no one she did not fear anything from any one. We then began to be afraid that the *Usecra* would prevent the *Cabécars* being seen, as it so happened.

This old woman is worthy of a slight description. She is tall, very dark, so thin as to have almost no flesh on her, having no other clothing than a *bana*, a small girdle that covered her private parts, her hair was black without any gray, scanty by a quarter it covered her face so that to walk she uncovered one eye a little. She must be eighty years old and had a certain sprightliness and activity which we admired. She lived alone with a grand-daughter, whom we did not see, being on the mountain in care of the pigs. We asked her if she would like to receive baptism and she said "No," because she would die. It is the same obstacle that the Indians of *Estrella* brought forward, which indicates the communication between the *Usecra* and *Biterio*.

At 8.30 we set out on our march and we crossed the ancient pasture lands that the Spaniards opened up more than two centuries ago, and climbing up a ridge entirely cleared and covered with forage, we reached the crest that we had seen in the morning, the habitation of the *Usecra*, or Grand Priest. It was 1 p. m. There we threw ourselves in the hammocks while our breakfast was being made ready, to rest a little, seeing the end of our journey. The Indians call this place "*Coctu*," so that not

even the name is left of *San José Cabécar*, after the Spaniards were driven away in 1709 from the fourteen villages who were in that neighborhood. In *San José Cabécar* or *Coctu*, then, we found ourselves installed at 1,800 feet above the level of the Sea, at an equal distance from the Atlantic and the Pacific, our view shut off by the great Cordillera in every direction. There was not a *manzana* (a measure of land) around the neighborhood that could be called level; but its slope does not stop the breeding of cattle of all kinds. The climate is delightful and although the location is so elevated the quick changes in temperature that were experienced at *Sipurio* were not met with. At night the thermometer did not go below 17° Réaumur, nor in the shade did it in the daytime go above 20°. The habitation of the *Usecra* which we occupied had a rather strange shape,—being an equilateral triangle, the sides of which make the roof and at the same time the wall of the dwelling, its base being the peak of a hill slightly inclined to the East and West and prolonged to the North and South.

In this house we found only two Indians, very wild and nephews of the *Usecra*, though, what was uncommon, completely clothed and with red handkerchiefs wound about their heads. Both had the keen look, the hair cut just below the ears, very flat on both sides of the face and shorter in front like the style of the young women of our most cultivated communities. They told us that their Uncle was in *Estrella* but that they expected him momentarily. According to what we were told afterwards in *Estrella* he was hidden and watching all our movements from a distance. He was the one that we sought, in order to advise him, and all our effort was useless because we could get none of the rest to present themselves.

The Bishop went down to a hut that was half a mile distant to attract some of the Indians and to show that no harm would be done to them, and two *Talamancas* who knew the way were directed to inform the Indians thereabout that they should come to visit us and on the following day there came four, very much in fear, clothed and the hair cut in the same manner as those that we had seen. The rest of that day the Bishop employed in studying the *Cabécar* language, Professor Hübeck in herborizing, Dr. Bovallius in hunting beautiful and strange humming birds and I

was with the Indians preparing an altar. In the evening by dint of presents the Bishop succeeded in getting into conversation with one of the nephews of the *Usecra*, who explained to him some of their religious beliefs.

*The world, he said, was formed by a great bat which rose daily to the heavens to get its food and the excrement which it deposited upon a rock went rolling and enlarging the earth which began to produce everything. God sent to the earth his son who planted the bananas in Talamanca and taught their ancestors to cultivate the maize and make chicha. The mother of this son of God is in the heavens praying for them. The soul is believed to be immortal and they have gatherings of under-priests or priests upon the death of one, so that the soul may find the way to heaven. At these gatherings they spend what was left by the deceased, eating, drinking and dancing near the body, which they put in a stockade, after having wrapped it in mastate and dried plaintain leaves. When there is nothing left to eat they give to each Sucur (under-priest) three or four pesos, according to the days that they may have been engaged and he declares that the soul has already found the road. They are not very much attached to their beliefs, except that which they have in their Usecra, that he is in communication with God and that everything that he asks for, breathing into the mysterious cave, as we said, is granted, they defended it and it is difficult to get them to give it up entirely. The Bishop explained to these, as well as to the Talamanecas, who listened with interest, the true creation of the world by God, the immortality of the soul, the reward or punishment for our good or bad deeds at the moment of death and the true mission of the Catholic Priest.*

We constructed the altar at the foot of a tree, near the house, and here we recited the Holy Rosary before we went to sleep. A little before the rising of the sun of the 1st of October, His Worship celebrated the Holy Sacrifice upon that modest altar, which for its covering had the sky and for its pavement the carpet which had been provided by nature. How much occurred to us in those moments! Two centuries before all was animation in those localities and perhaps in the same place the sacrifice had been held of the Franciscan Fathers who directed those peoples. So much blood, so many assassinations and we imagine a great

settlement of Indians and Spaniards \* \* \* and now, thirteen houses of poor, savage and unhappy Indians, where the Spaniards found so much wealth that they gave the name of "*Costa Rica*" to the State.

The Bishop directed his talk to the congregation, recalling the date when the Padre Margil passed that way, and calling our attention to the punishments which God sends upon peoples for their sins, for the hand which punished the lawlessness of conquerors and the conquered is yet seen hanging over this deserted country; he urged also upon those present that comprehending the delicacy of the mission upon which they came they will conduct themselves as good Christians, since by the sin of one God often makes the labors of the rest unfruitful. We all retired in silence to the dwelling where we took breakfast.

His Worship determined to visit the place where there still were left some remains of an ancient Catholic church and he went with some others, to the North of the hill lower down, where they found about two miles the ruins referred to. Really, heaps of debris, like *adobes* that had tumbled down, but which the Indians declared had been very large houses, were left in that location. On the way they encountered a funeral which the Indians had prepared to make a holiday. As has been stated, this was a stockade, very strong and protected from the rains by an ordinary roof. Inside the body was placed, already almost dried, upon cross pieces of wood. The *peones* wanted to uncover it and the Indians were much offended, but coming up to the house we directed two companions that with great solemnity they should take the skull to examine it afterwards and this was done, keeping it with great care in order to carry it to the capital.

Nothing more happened that day. It was already near evening when three Indians appeared to see the Bishop, almost trembling. He treated them with kindness, presented them with clothing and rings and they left agreeing that they would go to *Sipurio* with their families and other companions. That night His Worship continued his studies in the language and he explained to them several points of religion, to which they gave much attention, especially one of the nephews of the *Usecca*. After the Holy Rosary we slept until the following day, when His Worship celebrated the Holy Sacrifice very early and we

started on the march for *Sipurio* at 6.30 a. m. of the 2nd day of October. Pushing the march we could make in one day what it took us two to make going up. Arriving at *Biquicha* we met the horses and could hardly reach *Narbura*, because the night and a storm came on together. His Worship and Dr. Bovallius continued on at full speed as far as the house of the Chief, where they slept, leaving the rest of us in *Naibura*.

On the morning of the 3rd we mounted our horses and at 10 a. m. we all came together in *Sipurio* without anything new. We celebrated the Holy Sacrifice at which were present all the company and the Christians of *Sipurio* and we rested that day from the fatigue of the journey in order to begin the mission on the next. This was a regular campaign, for we did not lose a moment in explaining the beliefs of our August Religion, in the church, in the plaza, on the highways and in the private houses. On Monday we sent a messenger to the Chief of *La Estrella*, announcing our visit and that they should get hold of the *Usecre* so that His Worship might talk with him. In the 8 days that we remained here we baptized 300 Indians and there were united in matrimony 70 couples, after explaining to them well in their language the meaning of the sacraments which they received. On the 8th, on which was celebrated the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin, there was such a crowd of Indians to baptize that it was necessary to put them in a line on the public square and there to begin the baptism at 11 a. m. and to finish one by one the holy ceremonies in the church at 6 p. m. These Indians were the most part from the River *Cocu*, and His Worship provided, not only on this day but on all of the eight days that we were there, with the settlement full of people to hear the word of God, the dinner for everybody.

During these days two Jamaica negroes received baptism and were married, who were catechised for several days by the Bishop and one of them said that he had labored for two years to bring the Indians to accept the beliefs of the Protestant religion which he professed but had not been able to make any progress, that he saw the disinterestedness and the kindness with which he worked and he desired to be baptized, having more faith in the truths of our religion. There was also conferred the Sacrament of the Confirmation upon 20 of those who were best instructed. In the



talk two days before the Nativity of Our Lady, the Bishop showed to the company the desirability that all he confessed in order to take part on the 8th day of the festival, receiving the communion, as was in fact done, thus giving an example to the Indians and some Christians who were somewhat forgetful of God were brought in finally on the last day. No more could be expected in a village where for a year religion had been scarcely known and the few Christians living there forgetting that they must die spent their days in the most complete abandonment of religion.

The last day that we spent there we gave the afternoon to looking over the lands of the Church and examining the books and accounts of the parish. The land is a beautiful spot, quite level and more than one-third of it is cleared. It has a *patriotal*<sup>1</sup> which has made good progress and it has streams on the North and South. The Church and the parish house are both poor but they are sufficient for the needs of that growing parish. The Señor Curate said that he desired to go to the interior to get cured of a rheumatism with which he was suffering in his legs for some two months and His Worship gave him permission and he decided to leave the key and the care of everything with Mr. Lyon, the Secretary of the Chief. This was a memorable day, on account of His Worship getting the *mysterious stones for the cure of every kind of disease*, according to the silly belief of the Indians, and some powder that they use to make women barren. This and the ease with which they leave one woman to take another, is doubtless, a reason for the decadence of these peoples.

\* \* \* They were left in the hands of a competent authority to punish them as the law provides and the Christians were well advised of the serious character of these crimes so that they should not commit them.

As the Señor Curate was unable to make his trip by land it was decided that two of the company should accompany him and a *mozo* (servant boy) who was afflicted with a burn on his foot. Señor Lyon accompanied us on the journey to *Estrella* and so, there made up the company of His Worship, Professor Hübch, Dr. Bovallius, three *mozos* of *Tucurrique*, one *Guatuso* and 17 *Talamancas* Indians. On Tuesday, October 12, we started at

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<sup>1</sup> Plantation of bananas.

8 a. m. on the road to *Estrella*, reaching *Suritco* at 10 a. m. In that place we found a herd of goats with 15 head, of a good appearance. We crossed to the other side of the *Tiliri* in a canoe, at the junction of the latter with the *Zidole* and we went up the latter which is not so large and the water is clearer than the former, crossing it ten times. We left the river a mile to the left before reaching \* \* \* and at two in the afternoon we were at the house of Justo. We reached this house in time to be of help to a sick *peón* who had been bitten by a *coral* snake. We arranged the altar for the following day and set up a cross of laurel five yards high on the side of the Gospel, charging that it be always kept as a memorial.

All the residents of this place are Catholics, natives of *Chiriquí* and *Nicaragua*; there were only seven young persons without baptism and one pair to marry. In the evening, after the Holy Rosary, there was preaching and instruction given, so that they might on the following day receive the Holy Baptism, taking the necessary steps also for the celebration of the marriage. Very early in the morning His Holiness celebrated the Holy Mass and he said the nuptial mass preaching to them and admonishing them to live properly and to flee from sin. This is a quite healthful location, although they suffer from fevers, but not of a bad character. The soil is fertile and adapted to cacao and cane for making sugar. There is a good deal of *laurel* and extensive plaintain groves on the bank of the River *Zidote*, from which it is distant about a mile. It has the same altitude as *Sipurio* and the temperature is more steady, from 18 to 20 degrees Réaumur in the shade and 38° in the sun.

At 7 o'clock on the 13th we continued our journey, climbing a hill called *Siruribeta*, of two thousand feet above the level of the Sea. At one o'clock we descended to the junction of the Rivers *Moiñoc* and *Dului*, where we took breakfast and rested a little. This is an exceedingly picturesque location, both rivers descending through deep channels and opening there forming an esplanade open to the North, toward which both rivers flow together, taking the name of the latter. Here we all had reasons to be pleased. Dr. Bovallius found in the river a shrimp of a species quite unknown, about two inches long, of a dark brown color and one of the antennae was two inches long. The botanical pro-

fessor found a plant that was unknown to science: it is a shrub with bright green and alternate leaves, the flower of which is a continuation of the twigs, but reddened with a very deep color and at the bottom of each one dark brown more like in a circular shape. There are some rubber trees and many and good woods. The hill of *Siruribeta* is very beautiful and suitable for a coffee plantation on account of its height and the character of the soil. The ascent on the North is not an easy grade, while the descent on the South side is less than five percent., this face measuring a distance of eight miles. One of the roads of this journey was that we then took to the place of *Duluy*, where we arrived at 6 p. m., crossing the river more than twenty times and sometimes getting as much as 200 yards downstream. There is about the middle of this river a fall that makes a great noise and in many places its waters are thick and muddy. Nothing happened to us on this day with the exception of our tiredness at our arrival. As the night came on the Indians prepared the altar, placing the cross five yards in height at the extreme of the altar.

Here there is only a very small hut, inhabited by an Indian married couple. Nevertheless we did not feel like going on two hours farther as far as *Bitey* and so we dined and passed the night packed in almost. This hut is for the most part open at the sides, with the fire in the middle. The wife of the Indian had an ugly ulcer on her leg, like those with which they are afflicted in *Talamanca*, the effect of their food and careless life. They are not, as some have supposed, caused by the bite of the mosquito, nor the effect of the climate.

(*Conclusion of Book 3, and beginning of Book 4*).

The vicinity of the mountains, under the immediate influence of which the Indians of *Talamanca* live, and the other peoples on these coasts of the Atlantic, the flesh of the Castilian pig, which is their almost sole food and their careless life, are the causes of these ulcers, which we have before mentioned, and many of them present a syphilitic character. His Worship said mass at 6 a. m. on the 14th (October) and recommended them to keep that cross on the altar as a memorial; and after breakfast we started on our march to *Bitey*, where we arrived in two hours, passing a densely wooded section located in a ground that was entirely level. In this place there are three large huts where many Indians live, but

we only met one woman who did not want to speak a word. Señor Lyon arrived somewhat ill and his condition getting worse it was necessary to make a bed for him with poles and to get him all the possible comforts in that place. The hut in which we were installed was the place where some pigs were kept, opened on the sides and poorly roofed, for it did not seem prudent in those regions to enter dwellings abandoned by the Indians. But very soon our poor cabin was changed into a good one because everybody set to work to improve it. Roof, walls and bed, all were prepared in one day. The altar was set up in a little clearing, which was made on the west, and the cross was placed as usual.

On the next day, the 15th, the Holy Mass was said, and we breakfasted. In a little while there came an *Alcalde* from the River *Estrella*, saying that the Indians were fleeing, because Biterio, the *Jefe Político* (political head) of *Estrella* had threatened them if they presented themselves, that those who were baptized would die and that we came killing the Indians and eating their pigs and fowls and that he left them to go to complain to the Government of *Costa Rica*. The Bishop asked him if there were many Indians up the river and as he said there were, he decided to go alone with the *Alcalde* and a *peón*, as he did, leaving after breakfast at 10 a. m., recommending us to take care of the sick man who was getting worse daily.

On the 16th, in the afternoon, he came back, without having been able to find the Indians, who were really fleeing, finding all their dishes in confusion, so that there was no hope whatever. All he could ascertain was that Biterio or Emeterio was a Christian, who lived with four women in his house and that he had in fact gone into the interior with two of them and ten Indians. In *Zirole* we received a letter from his Secretary, Señor Gregorio Segura, pretending not having seen him and informing us of the absence of the Chief and that it was useless to make the visit because the Indians were very wild or savage. This Señor Gregorio Segura is a Catholic, a native of *Honduras*, and he lives close by Biterio and counsels him not to permit the teaching of the Indians, which would deprive him of his easy and free life. Nor was the *Usecre* there and here we learned that the three were making common cause and that the latter had not left *Cabécar* and that they were planning to abandon this point in

order to collect the Indians at the headwaters of the *Estrella*, as favored by Biterio. The Bishop brought three Indians, the mother of Biterio and two of his women, to make them presents and attract them in this way, and in fact it was successful. In the evening of that day the dwellers in the huts began to come in and some inhabitants from the River *Estrella*, almost all Colombians. Some young people were confessed for confirmation and there were some that wanted to be married; and in the morning of Sunday, the 17th, His Worship said the Holy Mass and immediately I performed two marriages and said the nuptial mass. Ten were baptized and five were confirmed, the divine word was communicated to them, counselling them to live uprightly, and we decided to leave that place as quickly as possible on account of the continuing illness of Mr. Lyon and the bad climate. Presents were made of clothing to those who had recently come in and many necklaces and buttons, all being well satisfied. They promised to go to *Limón* and to take more Indians, in order that they may be taught in the truths of religion.

This place of *Bitey* is beautiful,—it is on the River *Bitey*, upon a high tableland of a half mile. Everything is charming here; an infinite number of birds, with more varied colors than anywhere else;—wonderful humming-birds, among which I admired one of five inches, perfectly black and white at the end of the tail: a cinnamon woodpecker with white crest and on every side Nature was smiling. In front of us we could see the blue mountains of the *Estrella*, while at our feet a little river, the *Bitey*, wound through a deserted forage pasture of a hundred *manzamas* at the least, bordered by fertile *patriotales*.<sup>2</sup> But, O! the misfortune of it,—the climate was the most unhealthful in the Republic. From midnight until daylight, the air was so humid that everything was wet and the lowering of the temperature was very rapid. Everyone became ill and the Bishop was made hoarse, while poor Señor Lyon continued almost unconscious, the Indians were catching cold and Señor Bovallius and myself with chills. We clearly saw that another day remaining there would be fatal for us all.

So it was that at two o'clock on Sunday, the 17th, we decided to go to the mouth of *Estrella*, carrying Señor Lyon in an im-

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<sup>2</sup> Banana plantations.

provided chair as far as the River *Duluy*, which joins with the *Bitey*, where we put him in a canoe. By three o'clock we were already on the river on our way to the mouth. It is very level here and when it empties into the *Estrella* it is charming. The same panorama was admired as on the River *Sixaola*, with the difference that the whirlpools or little rapids are less dangerous. In the middle of the river one of the canoes that accompanied us was upset and in order to favor it we delayed in reaching the *Boca* (mouth). It was 7 p. m. when we gathered in the house of Señor Treyes (a Spaniard), who was engaged in the rubber trade with the Indians of the interior. After eating we retired to rest.

On Monday, the 18th, we stopped in this place, collecting the Catholics scattered along the river, preaching to them the word of God and caring for Señor Lyon, who was much improved by the change of temperature. At 9 a. m. I said the Holy Mass, at which all the residents were present. It was remarkable to see the variety of races that were found here: *Talamancas* Indians, *Cabécars*, *Guatusos*, *Estrellas*, Costaricans, Nicaraguans, North Americans, Germans, Swedes, Austrians, Jamaicans, Spaniards and Canary Islanders. These composed the congregation. The altar was located in a cocoanut grove on the bank of the river and on the other side from the Sea. There were baptized several *Talamancas* Indians and three couples were married, notifying them they were required to go to *Limón* to receive the nuptial benediction. The Holy Sacrament of Confirmation was administered to 9 and the voyage was arranged for the next day for *Banana*, leaving the Professor and Dr. Bovallins in care of Señor Lyon, who was already much better. Here the Indians were dismissed and their wages were paid to them.

On Tuesday, the 19th, at 6 a. m. we left the mouth of the River *Estrella*, with the Sea entirely calm, a very remarkable thing in that locality and a very light wind off the shore. We made sail, nevertheless, in the canoe, and sometimes pushed through with the paddles and at others driven by the wind, we reached the River *Banana* at 12 in the day, the mouth of which was a little rough. With the hability of the Master or Captain and the cleverness of the boatmen, in three minutes we struck through the short stretch of the entrance. We were very little

wet and His Worship determined that they would all go at once to *Limón*, leaving the altar, since we were threatened momentarily with the impossibility of departure. Soon we saw ourselves alone and we began our mission from house to house. There we found many Colombians, living by fishing and in the greatest poverty. The Justice of the Peace, Señor Santana, told us that the greater part of the residents were absent and that he would send a messenger along the banks of the river so that they should go to *Limón*. We made the altar and notified Santana that a cross should be placed in the same place. The few of the faithful being gathered, the word of God was preached to them and the Holy Rosary was recited; we retired and before daybreak His Worship celebrated the Holy Sacrifice and explained the Gospel to the hearers, exhorting them to live uprightly.

This locality is fairly healthful and abounds in fish: there is only one parcel of land cultivated with *patriotales* and the soil seems very fertile. The special thing that happened here was that while seeking the residents we met a *Cabécar* Indian, with his wife and sister-in-law, who belonged to those that had fled. He wondered much to hear his own language from the Bishop, but once he calmed showed his disquiet, as if our eyes were burning him, getting farther and farther away. We followed him and the Bishop gave to him an *escudo* of gold, a thing which they esteem very highly, but he would not take it, saying that he could work to earn it and that he did not need anything. We admired this integrity, which did not appear in any other Indian, and we urged him to come to the Rosary and the preaching in the evening. He promised it and in the dim light we saw him cross the river on an improvised raft with his family and belongings. On Wednesday, the 17th, we left very early in the morning on foot for *Limón*, where we arrived at 10 a. m.

This visit has had much greater results than had been expected. There is a population already of 600 Christians and 70 married couples, one parcel of two *manzanas*, one of about a half *manzana*: one church with the needful furniture: one curacy house adjoining and a kitchen and servant's house, all of wood of the palms and thatched with straw. The Indians of that section are much more attached than before, they do not flee from the company of Christians and they will soon be

living in settlements. The inability to speak the language multiplies the difficulties of civilizing these people, but His Worship on this trip finished his data on the language in order to improve the communication. The chant of the *Sucurs* or priests is set down and does not contain anything in particular, for the idiom in which they chant for the dead is nothing more than the real *Talamanca* dialect of the period of the conquest, without any Latin as some had supposed, only the word "*Sabaot*." The music is similar to that used in the Spanish church, particularly in the Lamentations of Jeremiah, on Holy Thursday. With all that we have done to persuade them of the foolishness of their creeds they will not give up the belief that they have in the *Usecre*, it has not been possible to destroy at all that superstition; they still have some fear that he can harm them. It might be that they have a material fear, for they are not so stupid as to fail to understand that the man can not have power over the winds and the storms, over life and death. It were obtained the mysterious stones for healing and the powders which produce barrenness in women, and the authorities were advised so as to prevent this crime. The trip to the ancient capital, *San José Cabécar*, although it was not fruitful in spiritual matters, because the Indians hid themselves, it was not in material matters, since we found the ruins, obtained a skull of the Indians and we had occasion to admire the pastures and plantain groves which show the former existence of a laborious population.

### *Third Visit to Talamanca in 1890.*

On Thursday, January 3, we proceeded on our march and had to cross the River *Serer*, a tributary of the *Estrélla*. Happily we found a crossing where the river was divided into three branches forming two islets. Crossing the *Serer* (*Periquito*), we came to *Mome* (*Achiote*), a large island, formerly inhabited by the Cacique Emeterio. He and all of his family were dead. Many Indians have died since 1883, when His Holiness came for the first time to *Mome*.

From *Mome* we took the road by the plains that were flooded throughout their extent. Of the road nothing was to be seen,



and we proceeded stepping in the water during two hours, falling over sticks and roots and into holes which were hidden in the water, until we reached higher ground. Higher up there was a *palenque*, in which we found the Justice of the Peace and several Indians who came to meet us. We continued along the bank of the *Estrella*, which looked like a small sea, so greatly had the river risen, doing no small amount of damage to the Indians, with their cattle, their breeding of pigs, plantings and even their houses. At 5 p. m. we reached *Cacharva*. On this day one of the *Borucas* escaped being bitten by a large *toboba*. The Indian was coming along, almost the last, and the *toboba* enraged by the noise which the first passers had made struck furiously at the Indian; happily it hit the load which the Indian carried on his shoulder.

In *Cacharva* were gathered some of the Indians from the places near by and after the Holy Mass nine children were baptized. The Indians of *Estrella* are becoming extinct. There are now 10 *palenques*, with 46 inhabitants. On the right bank of the *Estrella* are found *Bitey*, *Cacharva* (three houses), *Hobu*, *Moiñoc*, *Psarabata* and *Diruva*. On the left bank *Mocurroy* (*jobo*) and *Surin* (zapote in front of *Moiñoc*).

We left *Cacharva* at one in the afternoon and we reached *Bitey* at a distance of about four hours. *Bitey* is a very unhealthy location. In 1883 there were four houses there, whose inhabitants all died of fever; now there is but a single house inhabited by an Indian recently come down from the headwaters of the river. On Sunday, January 5, after the Holy Mass 13 children were baptized. At 9 we left with the purpose of reaching *Talamanca* that day and celebrating there the Festival of the Kings, but it was impossible. From 9 till 11 we traversed the plains which extend between the River *Bitey* and the *Dhui*, and at 11 we reached the *Dhui*, having to cross the river some 17 times with much danger and a good deal of discomfort.

At 1 p. m. we came to the foot of the cordillera which divides the waters of the *Estrella* and its tributaries from the waters of the *Sirole*, a branch of the *Tiliri*. The ascent continued for an hour; once on the crest we followed along by the edge of the mountain. At 6 p. m. we already heard the noise of the waters of the *Sirole*, but we could not reach it on account

of the darkness of the night. Without losing any time we stretched out in the road to rest and pass the night, during which fortunately it did not rain. Today several of the Indians became sick during the crossing from the *Dluy*: we were all very tired; the tigers and peccaries terrified us also during the march.

On the 6th of January, the day of the Holy Kings (Epiphany) we set out very early, crossing the *Sirole* and at 8.30 we were at the house of a trader who had a cattle ranch there and a small store where he supplied the Indians of that vicinity. This was the first day that we had the sun all day; so we could dry our wet clothing which was already ragged. In the *Sirole* 7 children were baptized. On Tuesday, the 7th of January, we arrived at 11 in the morning at *Sipurio*. The Sr. Comandante and his Secretary, Señor Lyon, came out to meet us and we were entertained in the house of Señor Lyon.

In *Sipurio* we remained until Monday, the 13th of January. Near *Sipurio*, at a distance of 300 yards, is found the settlement of *San Bernardo*, which is made up of a barrack, some 4 houses that are vacant, which the Government ordered to be built to lodge colonists of the interior and some four or five stores or bars and nothing more. The inhabitants are a few whites, some creoles and the rest negroes and Indians. There is no marriage, but immorality and vice. The bad example given by the negro and creole women exercises a destructive influence upon the Indian women. In order to give an idea of the moral degradation to which these inhabitants have arrived, the following example will serve. One of the negro women is a native of the island of *San Andrés* and consequently a Catholic. His Worship told her in English that she should give up her abandoned life and adopt better habits, getting married. To this the negrees replied, laughing: "I get married: never. I am a woman and I need my man. Either one looks for me or I look for one; and if he don't suit me I leave him and look for another: that is my life and I won't do anything else." In this way most of them argue. The results of this bad example have been felt among the Indians. Several of the Indian women, for many years married, among them one married 31 years, have abandoned their husbands, seeking the free life of the negresses.

The Indians spend the greater part of what they earn in the purchase of alcoholic drinks. One thing that contributed a good deal to the demoralization of that region has been the arbitrary destruction of the church. In 1883 His Worship built in *Sipurio*, at his own expense a church, a curates house with three rooms and a large kitchen, so as to be able to cook for the Indians who came from long distances, two or three days journey. The Padre Don Manuel Hidalgo carried out this work during the year he remained in *Talamanca*. In this church were baptized about 700 adult Indians and about 70 couples were married: it was a place dear to the Indians. In 1886 the *Jefe Politico* (political head) and *Comandante* of *Talamanca* determined to destroy these three buildings, alleging that they threatened to fall down and pretending to have received orders from the Capital, from the Minister of Government. Actually he did destroy everything and he built with the wood the house which serves for a barrack and a bar. This arbitrary proceeding, against which the Indians and several of the residents of the place protested, produced a very unfavorable impression; and when a short time after the destruction of the church he died at the mouth of the *Sixaola*, burned up with a violent fever, blood exuding from his whole body, they saw in that death a just punishment of God.

The stay, therefore, in *Talamanca* was, for His Worship, a source of bitterness and pain. But still there was consolation. The Indians of *Coén*, *Urén*, *Bribri*, *Lari*, came in large parties to hear the Holy Mass and the word of God, and their children were baptized and confirmed. In *Sipurio* 68 persons were baptized, 92 were confirmed and one marriage was performed. Twice the Holy Mass was said in one of the open houses of the Government, and the other days it was said in the house where Sr. Lyon lived.

If it is desired to civilize *Talamanca* and encourage settlers from the interior, no soldiers are needed, nor schoolmasters; before everything else two or three zealous missionaries are needed, like the ancient Franciscans, but their entrance is opposed by the tyrannical laws of a party that is called "Liberal," imposing their will and their hatred to a whole nation.

On Monday, January 13th, we departed from *Sipurio*, passing by *Túnsula* where the house of the Cacique Antonio is located. The River *Lari* presented some serious difficulties but at last we crossed it with the help of the Indians of *Túnsula*. On this day we arrived at *Paglcheca* (Cañas), which is found on the bank of the *Coén*. The *Comandante* accompanied us as far as *Paglcheca*. On Tuesday, the 14th, of January, we ascended along the right bank of the *Coén*. The storm began afresh. About 4 p. m. we reached *Ameguecha* (El Aguacate). On Wednesday, the 15th, we crossed in great danger the River *Sunghuityi*, and arrived at *Sigua-hu* (the house of the white man) where we had to cross the *Coén*. It was impossible to cross the river; its flooded waters would not permit our passage. Thursday, the 16th, we remained in *Sigua-hu*, losing the whole day in trying to find a place that seemed possible to cross the river. At one place, where the river divides in two branches, there was discovered a tree of large proportions (*soto caballo*). This served us to construct a bridge, passing great poles of 10 yards length from the top to the other side of the river, where there was a large rock which was in the river, a little separated from the bank but still in the water, on which we rested our poles, which were to serve as a ladder to go down from the top of the *sota caballo*. In the evening the bridge was ready and tied with reeds.

On Thursday, January 17, we crossed the *Coén* and arrived at *Coctu* or *San José Cabécar*, the old headquarters of the *Us-cra*, who had abandoned the place since the year 1883 and retired to the headquarters of the *Tiliri*. Now there live in these parts the Indians of *Buenos Aires*, who are for the most part Christian. We passed the night in the *palenque* of *Suébata*.

Saturday, the 18th, we went to another *palenque* in *Suébata* where we also remained on Sunday, January 19th. The new Indians of *Cabécar* are quite intelligent: they have plenty of cattle and they dress better than the Indians of lower *Talamanca*. They are now planning to plant coffee. His Worship gave them counsel and encouraged them in their work. As it rained incessantly Holy Mass could not be said. It is necessary to build a hermitage in *Suébata* so that a missionary may from time to time visit those regions and encourage those Indians who show sufficient interest in the work and they are interested in forming

a village like those in the interior of *Costa Rica*. As a proof of the disposition in which they were found it is enough to refer to the fact that during the year previous, without waiting for the urging of the *Jefe Politico* of *San Bernardo* they opened up a road fully 6 yards wide from *Suébata* to *Amoquecha*, two long days' journey. They made this road in order to export their cattle with greater ease, a thing which was very difficult by the old road from *Acabate*, on which the *Coén* must be crossed three times.

Monday, January 20, we left the last *palenque* of *Suébata*, to begin the passage of the great Main Cordillera. We went down to the *Coén*, which we crossed by a bridge made by the Indians, and on the other side were confronted by a high and almost perpendicular mountain. We ascended it in 5 hours, from 7 until 12.30. Along the most dangerous precipices the Indians had stakes fixed and poles fastened with reeds, which one could seize hold of. Once on the summit we were rather tired and we marched along the broken ground until we came to *Huépana* (*Sajinillo*), where we spent the night. The cold already began to trouble us very much.

Tuesday we continued going up and up, at times descending small hills until we arrived at the headwaters of the *Coén*.

On Wednesday we came to the headwaters of the *Lari*. There it was very cold.

Thursday, January 23, we started on our march very early in the morning. As it rained continuously and the cold was very severe, almost all of us became ill, some with a catarrh, others with fevers. At 10 we were at the highest point of the Cordillera, called by the Indians *Cuesa*. A strong wind was blowing which almost threw us to the ground. From *Cuesa* it descended continually to the plains of *Ujarrás*.

#### *Fourth Visit to Talamanca, page 187.*

Saturday, September 27th (of 1890) we left at 8 in the morning (from *Limón*) for *Talamanca*, in a little steam vessel of the Government. At 2 o'clock we reached in the afternoon *Old Harbour*, where we landed at the Portete. We stayed in the house of Sr. Don Horalien McNich.

Sunday, September 28, His Worship said the Holy Mass under some fine cocoanut trees on the shore of the Sea and preached

Monday, the 29th and Tuesday, the 30th of September, we had to remain in Old Harbour, awaiting the horses which were to come from *Sipurio*. Finally on Wednesday, the 1st of October, we were able to get away from *Old Harbour* and go to *Cuavre*. This took three hours. In *Cuavre* we embarked in a canoe, at 5 in the evening, and rowing all the night, we arrived on the following day, Thursday, October 2nd, at 6.30 in the morning at *Sipurio*.

At *Sipurio* and in the settlement of *San Bernardo* things were found in the same condition as they were left in January of this year. Some persons had gone away, among others the negress of *San Andrés*, who expressed herself with so much disregard in January, when His Worship made some remark about her conduct. She was sick for some days with a boil inside her mouth and came very near dying. Now she has gone to the shore of the Sea. A new improvement which is found is the school, with a master and a mistress, both married. Both work very well. There are some 25 boys and 25 girls entered, but the attendance is less: we found 18 boys and 5 girls in the school. The Indians still show much dislike to the school, partly on account of the difficulties it has met with. As they live at considerable distances from the settlement of *San Bernardo*, the children cannot go back but once a week to their homes and it is almost impossible to feed them in *San Bernardo*. The only thing is for some provision to be made on the part of the Government to provide for the cost of their food. They informed His Worship that in August the Cacique Antonio had called from the mountains the *Usecra* with the purpose of conjuring the school and the master, so that he might go away as they did in 1883 with the Padre Don Manuel Hidalgo. On account of this His Worship went to *Túnsula*, to the dwelling of Antonio, to take him to task because he still kept his belief in wizards and had opposed the real progress of the region. Antonio and his people denied roundly the fact that the *Usecra* had come. With all the eyewitnesses who declared to the contrary, it seems certain. Therefore it was, that without heeding the denial of the Cacique, His Holiness made some very strong remarks to

him and to his people and they promised in the future not to oppose the schools and to send their children punctually.

Sunday, October 5, there were gathered about 200 Indians, from different parts to be present at the divine offices. The school house was suitably prepared with flowers and branches of trees. At 8 His Worship said the Holy Mass, and explained the Gospel of the day. At 11 the baptisms began of the children who had been born since January and some larger ones, in all 24. In the evening the Rosary was recited and His Worship preached. Generally on every day that we remained in *Talamanca* the Bishop preached daily twice: in the Mass in the morning and in the evening after the Holy Rosary. In the afternoon he explained the Holy Commandments.

Monday, October 6, some new ones came for baptism, 10.

On Tuesday His Worship prepared arrangements, so that there should be every Sunday and on feast days a religious service made up of various prayers, reading of the Gospel of the day and a sermon, and in the evening the Holy Rosary and reading from the work: "Light of True Catholics." He left a competent person to undertake these religious exercises.

Wednesday, October 8, we left Sipurio by the river, arrived at *Cuavre* and in the afternoon at *Old Harbour*.

Thursday, October 9, we left in the little steam vessel, *Portete*, but the Sea was so bad that we had to go back to the land.

Friday, October 10, we departed once more from the port and were able although with some difficulty to reach *Limón*.

*Fifth Visit to Talamanca in 1892. Page 201.*

In July and August a short visit to *Talamanca* in company of Buenaventura Corrales. The visit extended only to *Old Harbour* and *Sipurio*.

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These agree with the originals to which we referred and for the purposes pursuant to law and at the request of the Supreme

Government we transcribe these presents, which we sign in the Episcopal Palace of *San José de Costa Rica* on the 31st day of the month of May, 1911.

JUAN GASPAR,  
Bishop of *Costa Rica*.

Before me:

Moisés Ramírez, N. M.

There is a seal which reads:

*"Evangelizare Pauperibus Miset Me Dominus.  
Fide et Pace."*

**Doc. 542 Reports of the Governor of Limón and of His Deputy in Talamanca.**

LIMÓN, March 31, 1883.<sup>1</sup>

I.

REPORT, which the undersigned Governor of the District of *Limón* renders to the Honorable Senor Secretary of State in the Department of Government, concerning the various branches of the Administration which has been under his charge during the constitutional period which began August 1, 1882, and which includes up to the 31st of the current month.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Talamanca, Estrella, Old Harbour, Cahuita, Banano and Bananito.*

These jurisdictions include the extensive territory of *Talamanca*, the population of which amounts to some 1500 natives; *Río Estrella*, some 300, also natives; *Old Harbour* and *Cahuita*, some 100 inhabitants, the greater part of whom are negroes from the Antilles and from *Bocas del Toro*; and *Banano* and *Bananita*, about 100 inhabitants, generally of the aboriginal race.

The separate territory of *Talamanca* is governed, as has already been stated, by a *Jefe Político*, who is one of the natives, and by a Secretary and Director, who is a civilized and honorable

<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Department of Government. Year 1883.



resident. Beside the primitive government of that jurisdiction, it is under the charge of a Justice of the Peace.

*Blanco* is the capital of the territory. There are the residences of the *Jefe Politico* and Secretary, the church and the priest's house. A monthly mail places *Talamanca* and *Limón* in mutual communication.

The natives of the said settlements live scattered in the extensive woodlands of our District, in small groups called *Palenques*, toward the part South of the railway line as far as the borders of *Colombia*, and on the Southwest until inland they run into the territories belonging already to the interior provinces. These natives, as a whole, live in their own plantings and from the chase and fishing. They gather, though on a small scale, rubber and sarsaparilla, which they offer to traders in exchange for articles for the camp, some clothing and arms and tackle for hunting and fishing.

The inhabitants' dwellings are hardly sufficient for the needs of their life, which has very little aspiration, as may be understood from their little desire for labor and their habitual indolence. In *Talamanca* a curacy was established, but since September or October of the last year the priest left and has not been replaced. As for the rest, so far as regards the settlements of *Cahuitta* and *Old Harbour*, made up of negroes, I will only say that they live by fishing and the gathering of rubber. \* \* \*

It would be very desirable to proceed slowly to establish primary schools at some places where the number of the settlers is such as to require it. *Talamanca* of course requires it, notwithstanding the scattered or dispersed way in which its dwellers live, that a primary school be founded there. Besides the primary school in *Talamanca* another could be established of arts and crafts. Even though only a few children should go, I believe that such a training school would have great influence in the earlier civilization of these, our brothers, who have so much and more right that they should be taught than those who belong to the civilized peoples, surrounded with a whole line of aids and advantages, which society gives to us from our birth. \* \* \*

*Limón*, March 31, 1883.

The Governor :

ALBERTO MOYA.

LIMÓN, May 12, 1883.

SEÑOR GOVERNOR OF THE DISTRICT:

Appointed by you to make an official visit to *Talamanca*, in your name and representation, I started for said territory on the 14th of the month of April last, at 10 p. m. in a small boat which was under contract to go as far as *Cahuita*. There accompanied me: the Señor Presbítero Don Juan Díaz Albo, who represented the Curate of this District in spiritual matters, a companion of this Curate young Don José León Guevara, and a policeman.

About 3 a. m. on the 15th of the said month we landed at *Cahuita*, and from there we sent the same day the note for the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, in which we asked him for servants and animals in order to continue our march. Difficulties in *Talamanca* prevented sending the animals with the promptness desired, and already weary with waiting, after five days delay in *Cahuita*, we hired there three poor beasts, equipped with the worst outfit, and on the 20th we started on the road, which, starting in a straight line from *Cahuita*, and passing by "*Huncrick*," goes until it terminates on the left bank of the River *Sixola*, in front of a holding called "*Sibube*" ("the house of God," in *Talamanca* language).

This same day, the 20th, that we left *Cahuita*, we could have reached *Sibube*, but this road is little used and no improvement had been made in it of any kind since it was opened, so that in parts it was overgrown to such an extent that there were no signs of a road. At one place, about a league beyond *Huncrick*, we met such an obstacle and we were compelled to go back and lose a league in search of a guide, as no one of the party was acquainted with this road. Reaching *Huncrick* we found that, notwithstanding our urging, begging and offers of money that we made to the two Indians and the two boys that were there, it was not possible to get any of them to go and show us the road that same day, and we could only get them to consent that they would do so the following one, by means of good pay, and for that reason we had to remain there from one o'clock in the afternoon of that day.

We started early on the 21st and about twelve that day we arrived at *Sibube*, having found the road generally good, for the

bad places which we noted consisted in great trees which had fallen over the road and in intervals, like that which had interrupted our march on the 20th, as the road has been interrupted by thickets and overgrown with brush and trees, where the traveller must go provided with *machetes* and axes, for without them he runs the risk of losing himself and tearing his clothing and flesh. I believe if this road was constantly kept clean the delays and troubles we had would be avoided. The grades generally are short and easy.

On our arrival at *Sibube* we learned that the day before the animals and servants had passed down by there going to meet us, and that they had gone by the way of *Cuabre*, to reach *Old Harbour*, for which place the *Jefe Político* thought we had started. On that same day, the 21st, in the evening, they did indeed arrive there, the animals and the servants who had gone to *Old Harbour*; and there also came two boats.

Our trip being favored with these two kinds of transportation, we resolved to leave *Sibube* on the following day, in the morning, in the direction of *Talamanca*, some going by the river in boats and others on horseback, which trip ended on that same day, the 22nd, in the evening, at *Talamanca*, where we lodged in the house of the Secretary and Director of the *Jefe Político*, Señor Don H. Lyon, who received us and waited upon us with the greatest kindness and generosity from the time we arrived until our return.

I have allowed myself to make this detailed account of our trip going to *Talamanca*, because there were in it difficulties, which meant an increase of expense, delays and slight annoyances, which we suffered, which it is well the Governor should know, for his better understanding respecting the continuance of the commission in *Talamanca*.

During our stay in *Talamanca*, the subscriber had occasion to visit the principal places in the neighborhood. He was in the residence of the *Jefe Político* (the ancient royal residence of the native Kings), which place is called "*Túnsula*," on the bank of the *Larc*. I visited some of the *palenques* at the headwaters of the *Urén*; I was in *Sureca*, which is at the point where the Rivers *Larc* and *Coén* join the *Telire*, from which point going

down-stream these united rivers form the *Sixola*, the length of which down to the outlet into the sea takes a boat two days to descend, more or less.

In passing I saw the cacao plantation which the Ex-Governor Don Juan Quirós in 1880 directed to be established there, so that its product should be applied for the expenses of the most urgent need in the territory. This plantation covers an extent of twenty *manzanas*, in which there are planted 3,000 cacao trees, which are still in a stage of development. In the last year there were planted around them a barrier of lemon trees, with the purpose of protecting the said plantation from animals. This plantation has in part been made with the personal labor of the Indians and the rest with the funds of the territory.

The local Government of the jurisdiction only owns in the way of buildings, one house of straw, having walls and flooring of the tops of the palm, which is quite a large building, in which is the calaboose or jail, where there is a fine stocks, and in one large and spacious room, that may serve as an office, barracks and for other uses, is the small equipment which consists of some five guns. I proceeded to make a visit to the archives of the office of the *Jefatura* and I found all in good order. In the office of the Treasury I found similar order in the accounts, noting both the receipts and the disbursements. The Treasurer, who is the same Secretary and Director, has proceeded in everything in conformity with governmental provisions, which were submitted to me.

The balance of the accounts for the year 1882 was verified (which I have presented to you), and by it will be seen that the receipts of funds in said year did not balance the expenses, leaving the small deficit of \$4.37. *Talamanca*, as the Governor knows very well, is specially administered and entirely different to what is accustomed in the other parts of the country. This irregularity, allowed and sanctioned, is in consequence of the class of inhabitants, of the distance from the centre of civilization, of the general state of poverty and the backwardness of its residents, who are almost in their primitive condition, keeping yet their own language and many of their old beliefs and traditions, much time being yet required before *Talamanca* can admit innovations and reforms in its method of existence. Before every-

thing it is necessary to insist upon bringing in education, and beginning this with the primary school.

It is an arduous task to uproot in *Talamanca* in a moment its way of life, which it has followed generation after generation; to destroy its sincere although erroneous beliefs represented in its *Usécara* and in its *Sukias*, stimulating the noble ideas of labor and a reasonable ambition concerning the advantages offered to man by a civilized life; but it will be an easy, practicable and noble task to prepare the new generation which is now growing up in *Talamanca*, by means of a primary school. Evangelical effort and all teaching in the different forms of human sentiment will be able to progress with more vigor and in an effective manner. As it is not possible without mathematics, to know and appreciate the value of the digits, neither can civilization be undertaken by a people without beginning, before everything else, to learn the A. B. C., which is the beginning of all civilization. Now, wherever it is wanted, the instruction of the masses plays the leading part. When the child is prepared in the school, all knowledge, moral and material, which is sought to instill, can be better acquired, and well meant efforts will not be fruitless because the soil is prepared.

The present Secretary and Director of the *Jefe Político* is Don Juan H. Lyon, now grown old and comparatively poor, if the 26 years are considered which he has lived there, devoting himself to giving to *Talamanca* his share of light and knowledge, both as an employee and as a private individual. Many times Mr. Lyon has been exposed to losing his life, that life which he has so generously and in such a self-sacrificing manner devoted to *Talamanca*, isolating himself so to speak, from the pleasures of civilized life, only because this place was cherished in his affections. Although he appears and has appeared as Secretary, of the *Jefe Político*, Mr. Lyon has been and is everything there, and the Government knows it well. Rather than "Second Conqueror of *Talamanca*," a title that we have seen he uses, it would be more becoming the honorable one of "Protector of the Tribes of *Talamanca*." The advantages that he has obtained from the Indians are very few, if we except the affection and respect which they show, but they owe to him many good things which they have obtained and of which perhaps they are ignorant.

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To bring out the Indians from the ignorance in which they live in their forests and start them upon the road to a civilized life, should be the constant care of the Government. The Indians have no other burdens placed upon them in *Talamanca* now than the following: the personal subsidiary work for the benefit of their own roads; cleaning the cacao plantation, and a tax of ten which is collected every three months and which is only paid by those who are fully able. On the other hand nothing is required of them for licenses to gather rubber or sarsaparilla, nor are they subject to the imposts which are paid by the subjects of the other nations who work there.

The National Treasury now pays in *Talamanca* monthly only the sum of \$50, which is divided, half as salary of the *Jefe* and the other half as salary of the Secretary and Director. As police are needed there to attend to the good order of its scattered inhabitants, the *Jefe Político* in his own residence and the Secretary in his, each maintain four Indians regularly who are ready to look after any disorder. The houses of these two employees are separated from each other by something more than a league.

In the accounts of the Treasurer for the past year there was only charged the sum of \$20 for food for the four policemen who serve under the orders of the Secretary, that is to say, at the rate of \$5 for food annually to each policeman. These four policemen should be paid from the National Treasury, giving them a reasonable salary.

There is no lack of disturbances in *Talamanca*, especially among the Jamaican negro rubber-gatherers, who are there, and it is necessary for the authorities to always have at hand some assistance, and this can not be had good and efficient unless it is paid for. With the freedom of *Talamanca*, the introduction of liquors became general, and this has been shown to be entirely prejudicial, for the offences and crimes which have for some time been committed in this region are committed in consequence of the liquor taken in excess. Besides the people leave their work, they get into debt and in the end for these reasons there are many troubles. If the vice of liquor drinking is so notably pernicious in civilized communities, what will it be in the midst of an ignorant people it is sought to civilize?

This caused me to decide upon the regulation No. 1, suspending from the 15th day of this current month the sale of alcoholic liquors. The irregularities of the rubber-gatherers in their arrangements with those who protect them, giving them provisions, etc., for the gathering of rubber, decided me to issue regulations No. 2. Both regulations are respectfully submitted for your approval, and if they are approved I beg you to duly forward them to the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* in order that they may go into effect.

I will not close this long report without saying to you that the people of *Talamanca*, although ignorant, gives some assurances of its patriotism, its affection and its adhesion to the present Supreme Government, it is a well-meaning people and in its way it devotes itself to its occupations.

The sanitary condition which I noted during my visit is generally good, although I observed many cases of syphilis visible in men and in women and also ulcers in the legs. I do not know the cause of this disease, but I am inclined to believe that there are various reasons for it, among others bad food, the use of salt meats and water they take which is impregnated with the juice of the sarsaparilla, which is abundant in these Cordilleras or mountains.

Separately, and in a detailed form, I send you the accounts of the expenses, incurred by this Commission, the total of which amounts to \$128, which I hope will receive your approval and that you will direct their payment, the whole of said sum being due.

With the greatest consideration, I have the honor to subscribe myself, Señor Governor, your obedient servant.

P. SEMPER.

### Report of the Governor of Limón.

Doc. 543

No. 781.

Hon. Señor Sec. of State,  
in the Department of Government;

*Limón*, June 10, 1884.

In consequence of my data concerning the sad situation of the Indians of *Talamanca*, Your Honor, justly concerned and desirous of doing away with it, hastened to tell me that I should

state in what manner the departure from said territory might be secured of the bandits who have been barbarously treating the innocent natives. The moment has already come for considering the humanitarian desires of Your Honor, and I will state the matter:

Don Temístocles Peñaranda, a very intelligent man, honest, of upright character and the owner of a fortune that is comparatively large for *Talamanca*, since he owns there more than \$15,000, is the person with whom I indicated to Your Honor that I hoped to speak, in order to be able to tell you afterwards the measures that ought to be taken for the purpose of surely obtaining the end desired, without any noise or in any way compromising our country, the evil-doers being foreigners. Señor Peñaranda maintains close relations, both with the *Jefe Político* as well as with his Secretary director, Mr. Lyon. He understands perfectly and is sorry for the bad situation of the latter, which could not be worse. He says that a private person has more power there than the *Jefe Político* and his Secretary, since the latter especially the evil-doers insult and threaten with impunity, without there being any means of making their authority respected. For this reason the bandits are those that predominate and they do not refrain from their abuses and barbarities committed against the natives.

Senor Peñaranda, notwithstanding this, believes that for the tranquillity of the settlements of *Talamanca* it is indispensable to keep the present *Jefe Político* in his present position, since he is much liked and respected by those of his race, as well as his Secretary, who is no less so. He shows to me that the only way of getting rid of those evil-doers in that place is by taking a well-armed squad, composed of eight soldiers and an officer. It is not necessary to alarm them but to take them gradually, which is not very difficult as they are all vicious and frequently go out to the settlements and engaging in disorder, so that they can be seized two by two and sent to *Limón* to be disposed of there, under the instruction of the Supreme Government, without prejudice to proceeding against each other by proper indictment for his wrongful acts. In this quiet way it could be brought about that not a single one should remain in that locality, and that



within a period of two months he believed the territory would be purged of such a bad element.

Senor Peñaranda knows everybody in *Talamanca*, better than any one else, for he has lived there many years and he assures me that any other means that may be employed for the purpose will be entirely useless.

Senor Peñaranda is a native of *Colombia*; but he has great affection for *Costa Rica* like any son of the country. *Costa Rica* is now for him almost his real fatherland; he desires with earnestness its prosperity, and as an honorable man he looks for its peace and tranquillity, even in those distant regions; and generous and a friend of order, as he really is, he respectfully offers his services, through me, to the Supreme Government. He says that he desires to perform for his adopted country the important good work of getting rid of those robbers; that for that purpose the Government may appoint him an Agent of Police in *Talamanca*, respecting always the superiority of the *Jefe Político*, or give to him the character that it deems desirable; with the notice that he does not wish any remuneration whatever for his services, which he will give with very great willingness, for such time only as it may be needed to get rid of these evil-doers, and with which precise object the troop shall go at his orders.

Finally, he also states that in order not to risk the health of the soldiers from the interior, as they are so strange to these coasts, he can arrange to secure them in *Matina* and in *Limón*, Your Honor only forwarding the nine arms with their corresponding outfit which, he will return after having carried out his commission.

Señor Peñaranda returns to *Talamanca* in the last days of the present month. It is desirable, if the Government accepts the idea proposed, and does not find any objection to it, it should be prepared to send him his appointment and promptly forward the arms, so that there may be no delay.

Having thus satisfied the wishes of Your Honor, I take this opportunity to subscribe myself, with all consideration, your obedient servant,

BALVANERO VARGAS.

Doc. 544    **The Governor of Limón to the Minister of Government.**

To the Honorable Señor Secretary of  
State, in the Department of Government.

*Limón*, June 24, 1884.

With four full folios, I have the honor to return to Your Honor the document relating to a complaint of various residents against the Alcalde of *Buenos Aires in Bizeita*.

With the greatest consideration, I subscribe myself your obedient servant,

BALVANERO VARGAS.

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*To the Most Illustrious and Most Reverend Señor Bishop of the  
Republic of Costa Rica.*

SAN PEDRO DE BUENOS AIRES, April 29, 1884.

ILLUSTRIOUS SEÑOR:

We, the undersigned, of full age, farmers and natives of *Viceita* and residents of this settlement, with all respect, submit to your illustrious Lordship, that it is no longer possible to endure the hostility of the head of this settlement for notwithstanding your many recommendations so that he should not interfere with us when you reduced us to Christianity, and relying upon his observance of your mandate, we have settled here, but we did not believe that he would require of us things that were not incumbent upon us; therefore much to our sorrow we call the attention of your Lordship to what happens in this locality.

Senor Don Pedro Calderón being in authority he has compelled us to work in his plantation without just payment, and when he has wanted some urgent thing, which we showed him we were unable to do, he has threatened us with prison if we did not obey him, and this happened each month.

Now, in former days he cited us to appear for a general meeting for its object the discussion of public matters and purchase of hardware for public works. Some appeared, but others were not found in their houses and this was sufficient to order them arrested and to require them to pay a fine of three pesos and a half to Juan de la Cruz Uva and Antonio Hidalgo, which fine we were able to meet by sacrifices, at the same time Señor Cal-

derón stated that if we did not contribute something for the purchase of said hardware we should be deprived of the right to be buried in the cemetery. Will it be just to compel us to do things that we cannot do, for your Illustrious Lordship knows how poor we are, and how with labor we meet the necessities of our families, and if this is so how shall we be able to pay fines and jail fees, and more than all requiring us to appear at meetings that we do not understand about nor are prepared for, and are we to believe that the *Alcalde* has the power to exclude us from burial in the sacred ground? All this occurs and many other things that we refrain from mentioning to you.

To your Illustrious Lordship we pray, that you will do what is in your power to better our condition, for otherwise we shall absolutely be compelled to abandon our properties and withdraw to our ancient homes; all these are irreparable losses for us, and it is only by an arbitrary authority, we beg anew that Your Lordship may have compassion upon us and at the same time we swear to you not to do any malacious act.

For Señores Agustín Morales, Antonio Hidalgo, Juan Bautist Hernández, Pedro Zúñiga, Mengor Morales and Juan de la Cruz Uva, who can not sign, the one who appears, signs and accrediting the reasons stated:

FRUCTOSO JIMÉNEZ.

At the request of Señores Fidel Villanueva, Sebastián Morales, Tomás Villanueva, José Ma. Navas, José Ma. Zúñiga and Jesús Elizondo, not knowing how to sign, it is signed by the one who appears,

JOSÉ FIGUEROA.

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No. 133.

SAN JOSÉ, May 12, 1884.

HONORABLE SEÑOR:

It not being within the power of the Ecclesiastical Authority to hear and decide upon the complaints which various recently baptized Indians of *Bizaita* present against the Civil Authority of *Buenos Aires*, I have the honor of submitting to you the annexed memorial, begging that you will bring it to the knowledge of His Excellency the General President, to the end that the facts being ascertained, he may be pleased to take such protective action as

shall be best to keep the said Indians in the new faith which they have embraced and so that they shall persevere in the conservation of the civilized life to which that faith calls them.

With assurances of the most distinguished consideration I subscribe myself your humble and obedient servant and Chaplain.

The Delegate to the Illustrious and Reverend Señor Bishop:

JOSÉ ZAMORA, Secretary.

To the Honorable Señor Minister of Government,

Licenciate Don Bernardo Soto.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ, May 12, 1884.

Pass this despatch and the annexed communication to the Governor of the District of *Limón*, in order that he may report as quickly as possible.

Soto.

#### GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF LIMÓN:

May 24, 1884.

This Government lacking the necessary data to comply with what is required in the foregoing, which data can be obtained with greater ease by the *Jefe Politico* of *Talamanca*, since he is in the nearest place to the settlement of *Bizeita*,—the enclosed papers are forwarded to your office, in order that the report desired be made as quickly as possible, preparing it in a clear and circumstantial form, and at the same time returning all the papers.

BALVANERO VARGAS.

#### JEFATURA POLITICA DE TALAMACA.

June 6, 1884.

I received the present despatch at 4 p. m. on the above date and this office does not find in its jurisdiction any person who can state anything against the said Señor *Alcalde* of *Buenos Aires*, but on the contrary the persons who have previously come here

from that place, both the Indians as well as some Spaniards, have always spoken very well of the said gentleman and the said place of *Buenos Aires* is distant from this territory eight days by road, and there is very little communication between the two jurisdictions;—this being all the report that this office is able to make to your Superior Authority.

Remaining of the Señor Governor, the very obedient servant.

ANTONIO ZALDAÑA.

JUAN H. LYON.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF LIMÓN,

June 24, 1884.

Received these papers in the morning of this day; let them be brought to the knowledge of the Honorable Señor Secretary of State in the Department of the Interior.

BALVANERO VARGAS.

**Don Federico Fernández to the Minister of Government. Doc. 545**

To the Honorable Señor Minister of Government,

SAN JOSÉ, June 30, 1884.

SEÑOR:

Having orders from H. E. the President of the Republic to make an expedition to *Talamanca*, and my health being almost entirely restored, I am ready for that purpose, so that if Your Honor deems it best I will depart on Friday next, having to stop one day on the plantation of *Cairo*, and continuing to *Limón* in the following train.

As Your Honor has already been pleased to indicate to me what is necessary to be known for the purpose, permit me to make the following suggestions:—

1. Give an order to the Governor of *Limón*, to have ready 8 or 10 soldiers and two corporals, all men suitable for those climates and with munitions sufficient for their outfit. Carry ten extra guns, of the old style, to arm Indians who may be able to aid the authorities against the evil-doers who infest those regions.

2. Also give an order that a vessel be ready, well manned, to carry the expedition, from *Limón* to *Old Harbour*, and two others from *Cuabre* to *Sipurio*.

3. Issue an order for a provision of food and furnishing aid to the men during the stay in *Talamanca*.

4. Advance some funds for the expense of the voyage, railroad fares, etc.

5. Perhaps it would be well that I should be accompanied by an officer of confidence in case I should become ill.

6. That the instructions be issued to me which may be deemed opportune and setting out in detail my powers.

7. That orders be given to provide what is necessary (boats, etc.) for the return.

8. If possible let there be provided a small tent, as it may be necessary to sleep some nights outdoors and in those places at this season it rains a great deal.

I have the honor to subscribe myself your obedient servant,

FEDERICO FERNÁNDEZ.

Doc. 546

### Report of General Don Federico Fernández.

To the Honorable Señor Minister of the Government and War:

SAN JOSÉ, August 21, 1884.

SEÑOR:

In compliance with the order received, I left this Capital for *Talamanca* on the fourth day of last month, but was unable to leave *Limón* until the eleventh because there was a delay in the equipment, so that I did not arrive in that city until the tenth. I took with me a lieutenant, two corporals and eight soldiers.

The armament consisted in ten Remington rifles and eight percussion guns, for reinforcement or to arm Indians, in case it should be needed, munitions, straps, etc.

On the 14th I reached the Valley of *Cuén* and located myself in the place called *Sipurio*, the chief town of the Government of *Talamanca*. I began at once to obtain the information needed for the execution of my commission, and I learned that the principal persons engaged in the disorders had fled and placed them-

selves in safety in the territory that is in litigation with *Colombia*. I was told that among the Jamaicans who were there some had committed offenses, though not serious.

The season was very bad, for it was a long rainy spell. The *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* was at the time engaged in a very serious matter to the Indians; celebrating the funeral services of three individuals of his family, a ceremony which continued for twenty days and nights, only stopping for two hours. The *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, according to the religious beliefs of the Indians can not leave the place of the function without it causing displeasure to the souls of the deceased whose obsequies are being celebrated. It was necessary that the *Jefe Político* should authorize with his presence the inquests that were being held, and it was necessary to wait.

The acts which are complained of in *Talamanca* are two or three attempts at robbing, which were prevented, and one which was committed in the store of Henry Ellis; various insults and even infringements of Authority committed by Chiricanian rubber-gatherers, and a Jamaican negro one night entered the house of an Indian looking in the dark for an Indian woman, but he was tied up and taken to the person in Authority. Besides previously there were several assassinations committed by Colombians of which followed the corresponding summaries.

Time passed and I suffered a second relapse of the fever. I did not consider it necessary that all the force I had taken to *Talamanca* should stay there, to which I was absolutely compelled to provide food, which is very expensive there. I resolved, therefor, to go back to *Limón* and take with me to be discharged a corporal and four soldiers, and I did so;—that the inquests should be continued respecting the acts mentioned, and that those who were implicated should be forwarded to *Limón* for trial.

I also provided that if those who had fled should return they should be seized and forwarded to *Limón*, together with the corresponding inquest.

I also provided that the introduction of liquor should not be permitted, nor the entry into the interior of persons with the pretext of gathering rubber, or anything else, except those known to be honest or those who should have a passport from the Governor of *Limón*.

In *Limón* I left the excess of the arms and equipment which I brought back from *Talamanca*. I came to make report as quickly as possible; but events beyond my will have not allowed me to do so until now. I propose separately to make a report giving my observations respecting social conditions in *Talamanca*.

I trust that Your Honor will accept the expression of my respect and consideration.

FEDERICO FERNÁNDEZ.

Doc. 547

## Report of the Governor of Limón.

No. 564.

LIMÓN, March 31, 1885.

To the Hon. Señor Sec. of State in the Departments of Government and Police:

Referring to the important circulars, Nos. 9 and 10, of February 19th last, I have the honor to make the reports requested of me, in the following order:

### *Talamanca.*

The expedition which the Supreme Government saw proper to send to that territory, at the beginning of the present year, while it did not produce all the good results which were hoped for, did however accomplish its main object. It was enough for the expedition to approach, when the evil-doers who had been making trouble for the natives fled from *Talamanca* and made their way into *Colombia*. Some of the least of these offenders have since come back, but they have changed their habits of vandalism, though it may only be on the surface. Still it would be well to afford some assurance, not only to the natives but the various honest people who live in that remote jurisdiction, by establishing a small police guard, which, without being burdensome for the National Treasury, would secure the object desired, and also be a help to the political authority, now lacking that element so needful for the purposes of its institution and playing there an absolutely useless and ridiculous part.



This could be secured by fixing a license for the four shops now existing, the amount of which, together with the fines, etc., would produce a sum sufficient for the monthly payment of the police, and even to establish a postal service.

Permit me, therefore, to bring this idea to the attention of Your Honor, which, if it merits your high approval, I think would be desirable and could be further extended. The Indians of *Talamanca* are not now in the backward condition in which they formerly were. They are in frequent communication with civilized people. They like to dress well: many of them wear cloth pantaloons and woven sashes, which they have secured at the high price of \$15. They like to ride on horse-back; some of them have their own horses and good saddles. Their principal industries are getting out sarsaparilla and the gathering of rubber. They are very fond of raising fowls, pigs and cattle. In that territory there are more than thirty natives who each own from fifteen to forty head of cattle.

These facts show, therefore, that these natives are no longer in a condition to go to them with ribbons and other presents of that sort. It is needful that some effort be made to reach them in some positive manner, with something that they will value, and more especially for the country that there should be some satisfactory primary instruction. No one can doubt that this is the best way to get them started upon a life of civilization and progress and so that they may later be really useful. It will not cost a great deal for the two things which I have respectfully suggested. If they were adopted it seems to me that a good step will have been taken toward securing the welfare of those innocent beings.

Mr. Minister, this ends my present report, and I trust that it may in some way be useful in the important deliberations of the high officials who watch over the development of our Country.

I subscribe myself, Your Honor's very obedient and respectful servant,

BALVANERO VARGAS.

## Doc. 548     Don Juan H. Lyon to the Minister of Government.

No. 220.

TALAMANCA, December 7, 1885.

To the Hon. Señor Minister of the Republic of *Costa Rica*:

San José.

I take pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your much esteemed letter, dated the 9th of the month last past, the contents of which I have read with the greatest attention, being much gratified at the high consideration which my Government has shown toward myself, an employee of many years and one who has always worked with the most earnest interest on behalf of my Government.

It is especially necessary that I inform Your Hon. Señor Minister that I have been the Second Conqueror of *Talamanca* and His Excellency the ex-President of the Republic, Don Próspero Fernández, having granted to me the rank of Lieutenant Colonel as a token of my sincere services rendered to my Government, permit me to state to Your Hon. Señor Minister that the Government can rely upon me, that I will use all my moral and physical strength to bring these tribes of Indians to the true light of Christianity, out of the benighted condition in which they are still found as regards civilization, and with the more hopes than ever now that the Supreme Government has been disposed to turn its serious attention to this territory, in order to afford it the means of successfully developing its civilization and making progress in this district which has always been considered a lost treasury.

Permit me also to inform Your Hon. Señor Minister that I am at the present time a person of years, with a family by my side to protect, having passed the best of my youth in this desert where I have been for thirty years, and I beg my Government that it may always keep me in the high consideration which it has ever shown toward me and do whatever is possible on my account, not allowing anyone else to get the credit for my labor and merit, for with thousands of wearisome steps have I withstood dangers from these savages in order to attain the satisfaction of entitling myself the Second Conqueror, without having a soldier at my side, nor having fired a shot. Everything depended

upon my prudent management and my moral strength, and now there is nothing left me but the hopes of passing the rest of my life here with the help of my Government in improving my present circumstances, and I leave everything to its esteemed consideration.

I regret exceedingly the occurrences which took place recently in the matter of Antonio, but so it is in this world, and there is nothing else to expect, but the protection of the Supreme Being and to have on our side a Government of which I have the honor to state that its aspirations and sympathies are for peace, protection and progress of its Costarican children and the aggrandisement of its territories.

Antonio came back without any news; I have had an interview with him upon two occasions; he arrived somewhat proud of the journey, but there has not been anything new up to date and I am proceeding with my administration very prudently and the garrison enjoys good health but is without provisions. However on this date I have duly informed the Governor of *Limón* of it, and the Hon. Señor Minister will pardon me for having to use the margin of this note to say all that is needful, subscribing myself with the greatest consideration,

Your very humble and obedient servant,

JUAN H. LYON.

### Report of the Governor of Limón.

Doc. 549

No. 747.

December 12, 1885.

To the Hon. Señor Sec. of State, in the Department of Government:

I have the honor to bring to your attention the documents herewith, which were forwarded to me from *Talamanca*.

On this occasion permit me to respectfully make a suggestion to you. It seems to me that it is no longer necessary to maintain in that territory the garrison which exists there. I think that now the person alone of the *Comandante* who has been expected to govern is more than sufficient to look after any disorder that may arise.

I have no salaries whatever here for the said garrison. I have delayed the mail so as to forward them when received, and also with the object of sending the order to withdraw the garrison, if you see fit to so provide.

With the greatest consideration, I subscribe myself Your Honor's most cordial servant.

BALVANERO VARGAS.

**Doc. 550 Reports of the Political Chiefs of Talamanca and the Colony of San Bernardo in the Same Territory.**

No. 222.

TALAMANCA, January 1, 1886.<sup>1</sup>

Señor Governor of the District of *Limón*.

I take pleasure in addressing you for the first time and advising you of my safe arrival in this territory, after having passed some unpleasant times on the river and on the road, being places where they do not yet have the comforts that are met with in other parts of the Republic.

On the 23rd of the past month I reached the post of Señor Don Juan H. Lyon and on the same date Señor Lyon placed at my disposal a large house all arranged for the service of the Barracks, where I located the garrison and established the Government in due military form, having also found all previous matters in this territory in peace and quiet and in a short time I understood the most prudent course to carry on this place as I had found it without anything new.

It is proper now for me to state that the sale of liquor ought not to be permitted in this territory, as long as this authority is carrying out the wishes the Supreme Government has for its progress, as it may be said that the greater number of the inhabitants of this territory are Indians, and the number is considerable, and notwithstanding there is a respectable garrison still the Indians continue there their demoralized life and do not care to work and assist the progress of the country; and the colonists who go into the interior to locate themselves find many

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<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Secretaryship of Government. Year 1886. Bundle 6.

impediments towards doing anything, and the authorities will always have to be imposing punishments to administer justice, which will be a rather difficult matter at the beginning of this newly established Government.

Señor Antonio Zaldaña has presented himself with a committee of Indians, making a visit to this office and paying many compliments and asking orders to assist in what the Government may desire, and considering the goodwill he has shown it was not deemed prudent at the moment to communicate to him anything concerning his dismissal from his position, keeping him favorable towards the Government and not rousing feelings of anger and resentment which might in underhand ways work against the Government, interfering against governmental provisions, of which the effect might at once be destroyed as he remains in the territory, while on the other hand the mode I have taken assures present peace and quiet in the settlement, while the works that may be begun in this territory are continued, so that it is only by caprice that he could stir up discontent among the Indians, in which case I will inform you at once in order that the Supreme Government may take the necessary measures; and I hope that this action which is well considered may meet your approval.

Please find enclosed the account of expenses for the transportation of the provisions for the garrison from *Old Harbour* to here, advising your office that the river boatmen, from the Port of *Cuabre* to here took also cargo from *Old Harbour* to *Cuabre* and the rest were only occupied in loading for the same distance and their trip by land to return to this territory,—begging that you will send the money as soon as possible in order to satisfy the Indians so that they will be willing on the next occasion, which is sure to occur when something comes up in this territory.

I advise you that on the 28th of last month Sergeant Julián Berrocal was buried, he having arrived here with a very high fever, accompanied with vomiting. He was treated with all the necessary medicines, but his cure was in vain; and also another soldier, Julián Molina, who has been very ill and is in a serious condition. Be pleased to provide if it can be done another sol-

dier in the place of the one that died, so that the garrison may be complete for anything that may come up.

The payment for the mail from here to *Old Harbour* is four pesos and it is included in the same account of expenses incurred in transportation of the provisions.

Be good enough to forward to me the valise which was left in the office of Government last month.

I subscribe myself your very obedient servant.

L. ZAMORA.

JUAN H. LYON, Sec.

TALAMANCA, March 1, 1886.

Honorable Señor Minister of Government :

*San José.*

On this date with all respect I forward to you the account of expenses incurred by this office, as appears in the sheet, to the end of last month, and beg the Minister to be pleased to remit the amount thereof as soon as possible in order to settle with the commercial creditors. The Minister will understand that the reason why the account was not sent to the Governor of *Limón* was because I knew the Minister would attend to it with attention and without loss of time, as I am without money at this time and cannot discharge the account, and also because I prefer to address the Ministry directly in matters of this character.

I omit at this time to remit the Budget of the salaries of the garrison, as the soldiers prefer that when I go to the Capital that I shall bring their salaries.

Regarding the state of this territory, at present it enjoys and it has enjoyed since my arrival good order and tranquillity and I venture to hope that the desires of the Supreme Government for the progress of *Talamanca* may be fulfilled, little by little, with the prudent measures which have been adopted.

I subscribe myself, of the Minister, with great consideration his obedient servant,

L. ZAMORA.

JUAN H. LYON, Sec.

SAN BERNARDO, May 31, 1886.

No. 245.

To the Governor of the District of *Limón*:

The *Comandante* and *Jefe Político* who subscribes this, being desirous that the Supreme Government should be advised of the progress made in this military Colony of *Talamanca* during the months that he has been staying therein, proceeds to make the following Report:

On my arrival here I carefully examined the territory, finding it very fertile lands, immense plains, good water, abundant and splendid woods and a climate that is healthful and delightful; and the most suitable point to establish the Colony at "*Cipurio*," not only on account of its good water but its extensive prairies and good air. I began at once the laying out of the settlement, placing the Plaza in front of the building occupied as a Barracks, and giving it the name of "Plaza of San Bernardo."

At the point mentioned there are three *manzanas* of cleared land, and four that have been cleared by the soldiers of this garrison to complete the Plaza and squares. Of this I have fenced two, and cultivated with maize, rice, beans and green vegetables, leaving the corresponding streets sixteen *varas* (Spanish yards) wide. There have been constructed on the principal street and near to the Barracks five houses, belonging to Don Ramón Hernández, the first; to Mr. Hureci McNish, the second; to Don Vicente Quiñones the third; to Don Leopoldo Selles, the fourth; and the fifth to Don Perfecto Moscoso; and I expect that within a short time more will be built.

I have been teaching the Indians to work with *machetes*, such as are used in the interior; and I have given them to cultivate, corn, rice and beans, explaining the method of planting them, which has been done. With the help of Indians the road which leads from here to Port of *Oljaba* has been cleaned up, putting the bridges which were indispensable over the ravines. In this distance there are encountered two hills, that of *Curubarío* and that of *Coabre*, which although they present some difficulties have been cut with narrow winding paths so that animals can pass. The neighboring roads have been cleaned, that from here to *Urén*, about one league, that from *Túnsula* to *Quén* of two leagues, which leads to *Lari*, about one; and that of *Sureca*,

about one and a quarter. Two communal plaintain groves have been cleaned up, one about a mile distant from this settlement, of some thirty *manzanas*, and the other of *Coabre*, of eight.

The Indians are very contented, devoting themselves to labor, since I have shown them the benefit to be derived therefrom. Some families sought to move to *Bocas del Toro*, but now that they see that things are going better they have changed their minds and given up their purpose. I see the necessity of the emigration of families from the interior, not only for the early progress of the Colony, but in order to utilize these beautiful and virgin lands; and a schoolmaster is also indispensable for the civilization of the youth.

In my humble judgment it would be a good thing for the Supreme Government to decree the free entry of foreign merchandise and that from the Country into this Colony, in order to as far as possible broaden and protect commerce; and thus the Indians would be able to make their purchases at moderate prices.

Two boats are needed for the business on the river; one large one to carry families and provisions from *Coabre* here; and another small one to carry the mail. The garrison is in the best of health and up to the present there is no news of any kind.

Hoping that you will read my little report with pleasure, I am glad to subscribe myself, Señor Governor, your most obedient servant,

RAMÓN HERNÁNDEZ C.

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SAN BERNARDO, September 30, 1886.<sup>1</sup>

To the Governor of the District of *Limón*:

SAN BERNARDO, September 30, 1886.

The *Comandant* and *Jefe Político* who subscribes this desiring that the Supreme Government shall be informed of the progress made in this military Colony of *Talamanca* during the months of August and September of the present year, proceeds to make the following report:

Seeing the need that the Supreme Government had for a house for a barracks and that it had to pay the sum of Twenty pesos (\$20.00) monthly for rent, I arranged to make a building for a barracks with the labor of the soldiers that now occupy it and

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*. Bundle 8.



stop the rent. This building or barracks will be sixteen varas long by eight wide, with a corridor eight feet wide, with three rooms,—one for a barracks, one other for a jail, and the other for an office, and I have expended for material the sum of One hundred and fifty pesos (\$150.00), which Señor Peñaranda has supplied in nails and money for timber and leaves for thatching the roof; and with this sum the Nation will save the sum of Twenty pesos (\$20.00) monthly, which it had to pay during all this time.

Following that I built two bridges with wire carriers for better communication with the villages, one over the River *Urén* 69 yards long and the other over the River *Dicote* 50 yards long, with which the Indians are much pleased, because they do not need to wade the rivers. There have also been built by Señor Peñaranda two small houses on the principal street of this Colony, and the Indians continue devoting themselves to work with the commercial house which Señor Peñaranda has established, all being engaged in getting out sarsaparilla and sell it to him.

I see the need for the emigration of families from the interior, not only for the rapid progress of the Colony but in order to utilize the beautiful and virgin lands. Also, if the Supreme Government deems it best to send a schoolmaster, for the teaching of the youth, he could be located in the same building as the barracks, since the corridor is sufficient for it and well ventilated.

The families that came are in the best of health, except for the death of Señora Martiliana Torres of *San José*, but who came afterwards from *Limón* and caught a fever there.

Also I must not forget to say that in the Port of *Old Harbour* a warehouse has been constructed for the free transit of passengers from *Limón* to this Colony and vice versa, and having improved the road from said Port of *Old Harbour* to this Colony the best that is possible, so that animals can now pass freely and without danger. The garrison is in the best of health and there is nothing else new.

Hoping that you may look upon my little report with pleasure I am glad to subscribe myself, Señor Governor, your very obedient servant.

RAMÓN HERNÁNDEZ C.

Doc. 551 Report of Don Joaquín Bernardo Calvo on the Boundary  
Line With Colombia.

SAN JOSÉ, September 19, 1888.<sup>1</sup>

To the Secretary of State in the Department of Foreign Relations.

SAN JOSÉ, September 19, 1888.

In fulfilment of what was resolved by the Supreme Executive Power and according to the instructions given by the Secretaryship in your worthy charge, I present to you the report relating to the important commission with which his Excellency the Señor President of the Republic was pleased to honour me.

The matter is a grave one and my aptitudes are very short to satisfy the wishes of the Government; but my vehement desire to be useful to the most beneficial administration that *Costa Rica* has had, on account of the immense benefit due to it in the present time and the great progress forthcoming, will somewhat compensate the lack of merit of my work; and thus, confident in the indulgence that my goodwill deserves, I put in your hands this document.

I.

The dividing line between *Colombia* and *Central America* does not offer any doubt. According to the documents, the boundaries of both countries at the time independence was declared, are known.

If among the misfortunes caused by the anarchy which overruled *Central America* since its emancipation till its division, we must count the segregation of a large part of our southern territory, it is an evident fact that *Costa Rica* owes to a blameable abandon in former times the extension of foreign domination carried into effect in 1870 in presence of our officials.

It does not seem pertinent to determine here the dividing line fixed in fact by *Colombia* since 1836; but I think it convenient to state that that country had not possessed on the Atlantic coast any part of the territory situated on this side of *Punta Sorocta* or

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<sup>1</sup> Archives of the Department of Foreign Relations of Costa Rica.

*Soróbeta*, which stands in front of *Boca del Drago*, until the end of the year 1869 when in fact she put an official in the small village located on the right bank of the mouth of the *Sixola* river.

The efforts of the Jefe Político of *Moin*, Señor Fábrega, to establish the authority of *Costa Rica* had then a good success; but after the change of Government in 1870, *Colombia* had no obstacles in establishing again her official in the said place at the mouth of the *Sixola*.

Since that date she has possessed without interruption all the coast as far as the place referred to; but notwithstanding the investigations I have with keen interest made, I could not find even the slightest evidence of the establishment of authority in the interior land, in any place located between *Boca del Drago* and the southern part of the said river.

It seems, however, that in some time the place named *El Guavito*, marked in the enclosed map, was considered as the divisional point and that later that point was fixed more toward the interior, in *Halobita*, marked on the map of Gabb with the name of *Nuevacita*.

*Colombia* having not exercised any jurisdictional acts toward the interior, the line she pretends to fix as boundary between both countries could not be determined; and it is a fact that even today the agents of the Government of *Costa Rica* maintain the sovereignty of this country over all the course of the *Sixola* River, and that the authority of *Colombia* has been circumscribed to the land point occupied by the village I have referred to.

And this notwithstanding that the inhabitants of those places, among whom prevails the negro race with the pretension of being English, indicate, as already said, as the dividing spot in the river, some of them *Guabito* and some others *Halobita*, which I also found stated in orders signed in 1883 by the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, **although not expressed in a conclusive manner.**

In fact, in January 22 of the said year, that official conferred to the justice of the peace of *Guali* "*jurisdiction as far as HALOBITA, and if it should be necessary, as far as the mouth of the river SIXAULA, in the part belonging to COSTA RICA; all the waters of the river SIXAULA belonging also to COSTA RICA; and in any case, being necessary, with the power to capture an of-*

*fender in the waters of the part of the mouth of SIXAULA belonging to THE UNITED STATES OF COLOMBIA, with the only exception of not laying the boats on the shores of the said village."*

This has been the state of things since 1870 and I have no notice that the Colombian authority of the *Mouth of the Sixola* had pretended to exercise jurisdiction over the river or on any point of the southern bank and much less to hinder the free exercise of the sovereignty of *Costa Rica* over the whole length of the territory traversed by the same river.

Whether the river has been considered as an easy and common way for the inhabitants of both parties and the free use of which has not given rise to disagreements between them, or that the complete indifference of those who have been there as to the pending disputes has avoided obstruction, the fact is that from the opinion of the inhabitants of those places, very little can be used as a basis to judge about the true boundary as far as which *Colombia* has desired to maintain her jurisdiction.

Which is the line that must be followed since *Halobita*, in what direction and how far does it run? This is a problem that, as I have already said, cannot be determined in fact, because there have never been any marked spots on the territory of the interior part and because *Colombia* has not exercised jurisdictional acts that could determine them.

Therefore it is evident that only in consideration of the Government of *Costa Rica* having tolerated the occupation of the southern extremity of the mouth of the *Sixola*, this place has been respected, and that *Colombia* has never had any possession neither of the waters of the river nor of any part of the territory towards the interior.

## II.

This was the state of things when in the month of May of the present year, a body of engineers appeared in the *Sixola* river, making surveys on the river and marking at several points of observation on the trunks of some trees, the initials, *C. P.*, over a space cut on the trunks at an ordinary man's height.

Following this commission, arrived another, which, as it seems, was correcting the work of the former.

These engineers, who stated that they were under the service of the Panama Canal, entered by the mouth of the *Sivola* river and went up stream, putting the said marks at certain distances on the southern bank of same river.

The Political Chief of *Talamanca*, being informed of what was going on and one of the engineers having applied to him to ask for some men for the work, that official advised immediately the Governor of *Limón*, who giving due attention to such an important advice, sent it by telegraph to the Government.

It is easy to understand the embarrassment in which the Political Chief found himself to be in so arduous a matter, and it is just to recognize that he had reasons enough for doing nothing whilst he had not received the instructions he asked for.

This seemed to be the most prudent, but the instructions never came. The work was progressing and the engineers showed their pretensions to follow the course of the river on the part of it called *Tiliri*, very much to the north of the place where the village of *San Bernardo* is located, and it became necessary to hinder the execution of such work on those places, as it was done, in fact, with the greatest prudence.

Whether it were on account of the difficulties the engineers were detained by, or because they themselves considered as audacious such a great encroachment on the territory of *Costa Rica*, from the spot where the river *Yorquín* or *Zorquín* flows into the *Sivola* they followed the course of the said river *Yorquín* up-stream in the whole extent they were able to navigate it, and they continued afterwards by land in the same direction of this river, and later, by a trail in that of *Pico Róvalo*, this last spot being also the one to which aimed the engineers who studied the section on the side of the river *Changuinola*, which section extends to the south of this same river.

I was not able to get knowledge of the starting points of the work on the side of *Colombia*; but it is very clear that they are found very far away from *Punta Sorocta* or *Soróbeta*, in the territory of this Republic now possessed by *Colombia*.

In the enclosed sketch, calculated on the map of Gabb, I have marked with rose color, the territory embraced by the measuring

made on this side of *Pico Róvalo*, and with red color, the line that was intended to search on the river *Tiliri*, without being able to determine the extent that it was sought to give it.

### III.

I have no positive notice of the part that the Government of *Colombia* may have taken in this matter. I was only informed that Señor Bravo, Chief of the first expedition, stated that the work had no connection with the boundary disputes, and that with regard to the ownership of the lands they were measuring, this would be known when the Arbitrator would decide upon the boundaries of both countries.

It is natural to suppose that a respectable commission of engineers under the service of the Panama Canal, was not coming to measure on the river *Sixola*, without at least, an indication of the Governor of the *Isthmus*; but it calls my attention that the Political Judge of the *Mouth of Sixola*, has not been instructed of any enlargement of his jurisdiction, and that the Costa Rican officials have not had the slightest difficulty for the full exercise of their functions in those same places located in the territory of which *Colombia* seemed to have taken possession.

### IV.

All the inhabitants of the settlements, situated on the coast as far as *Chiriquí* and those of the Bay of *Bocas del Toro*, with the exception of a few Colombians by birth, are negroes, who consider themselves as English under the flag of Great Britain. They speak that language, and say that they do not care if the sovereign of those places is *Colombia* or *Costa Rica*, as far as they can get some work.

### V.

Considering what had been done by the engineers of the Panama Canal, when I travelled by the *Sixola* river, I looked for the best place to locate the garrison which is now in *San Bernardo*, in order that it shall inspire respect and that any new en-

croachments on our territory may be hindered by its presence; and I think that if it is not possible to maintain it at the *Boca* (mouth of the river), the most convenient would be to locate it at *Cuabre* or at *Mastate*, in the place where the river is crossed following the *Talamanca* road. In this place, it would be possible to prevent new incursions of foreign elements in our country by that part.

The elements for life could perhaps be obtained there with less difficulty than in *San Bernardo*, which is situated at a longer distance, and although very near the Indian hamlets, things are there as scarce as in any of the other places that I have indicated; the climate is good, but distance makes it less suitable whilst the planned colony is not improved.

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I wished, Señor Minister, to present you a work worthy of the matter with which I have been entrusted; but the very short time that I have had to prepare this report, only has permitted me to fix the principal points of which the Government desired to be informed. I hope that my efforts may at least throw some light on this very interesting matter.

I am, with the highest consideration, your devoted servant,  
J. B. CALVO.

## Report of the Governor of Limón.

Doc. 552

No. 159.

Señor Secretary of State in the Departments of Government and Fomento:

LIMÓN, October 31, 1887.<sup>1</sup>

The following is the report which it is my duty to submit to the Minister for the month ending today:

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IV. The Colony of *Talamanca*, to which the Government has given marked attention, is fairly prosperous, not so much in its ornamentation as in the development of the wealth of its fertile soil and pleasing climate. At other times I have allowed myself

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<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Department of Government. Year 1887.

to report in reference to the advantageous general conditions of that privileged territory; but now I propose to concentrate my facts to one point, which not unknown, still little has been said about its special circumstances. I refer to the River *Siraola*. The majestic *Siraola* does not have a source, like all the other rivers which wash the picturesque localities of *Talamanca*, but it is formed by three tributaries, the meeting of which is at a place called "*Sureca*," an old possession of the first merchants who penetrated into these virgin forests.

These rivers, whose plains are an admirable mixture of beautiful landscapes and natural riches, are called, "*Cuén*," "*Lare*," and "*Tilire*." It is from *Sureca* that the great river takes the name of "*Siraola*." The wonders of this locality of *Sureca* could hardly be described by even a clever pen; there all is admirable and charming. It would seem as if Nature had in this place sought to exhibit herself with prodigal partiality.

Also, three miles below on the *Siraola* there enters the important river "*Urén*," to add its portion, as if the broad waters of the former were not sufficient to maintain a proud and imposing course. It is on the banks of the *Urén* that the best villages of the Indians are found, and where also the settlement of *San Bernardo* was founded, now the Capital of the Colony.

Ten miles further down the River *Yurkín* empties into the *Siraola*, and a multitude of brooks, all with the same crystalline waters that wind about in our country.

The *Siraola* has a course of approximately a hundred miles, from *Sureca* until it empties into the Atlantic, and throughout the whole of that extent it is navigable by boats, and also by steamers of light draught for considerable distances. Its width varies from 100 to 500 metres, and its depth may be estimated at from 2 to 4 metres.

On the plains of the *Siraola* there are almost no habitations, though at the point called *Cuabre* some are noted. At this place there are four plantations of considerable importance and ten that deserve little consideration. These properties are occupied by breeders of cattle and swine, and the number at only this point of the river is not less than 400 head. It is not very long since there were no breeders in *Talamanca*, and now it can be guaranteed that there are no less than 800 head of cattle. This



is the basis upon which this infant Colony counts for its future development in this field, which indeed increases here admirably and at little cost, since the pastures are natural and very abundant.

From the Port of *Cuabre* to the mouth of the river, which distance is more than half its length, there are only found three small farms and some ranches of rubber-gatherers and Indian boatbuilders. The boats that are made in these places are quite good and the natives use them, not only on the streams but even on the ocean; and their fishing and most risky navigations are carried on in these small fishing vessels, which they construct themselves, selecting to their satisfaction the best woods that nature has placed within their reach in such profusion. In the frequent periods during which storms occur on the Atlantic coasts, the boats of the Indians are considered the safest. Some of them can carry a load of 3,000 kilos.

The number of the inhabitants, of both sexes, who dwell on the solitary banks of the *Sirao* will hardly amount to 60;—this great river displays its completeness, all the beauties with which nature has endowed it, but it seems that no human beings have disturbed its dense forests or its incomparable landscapes:—there is only perceived the confused murmur of its waters, with the songs of thousands of birds, hovering over its winding course.

With great consideration I subscribe myself, Señor Secretary of State, your obedient servant,

BALVANERO VARGAS.

### Report of the Governor of Limón.

Doc. 553

No. 176.

To the Señor Sec. of State, in the Departments of Government Police and Fomento.

LIMÓN, January 31, 1888.<sup>1</sup>

SEÑOR:

Being absent at the end of December last, it was not possible for me to duly make the report at that time belonging to that month; and I take pleasure in doing so now, including also the month of January which now ends.

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<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Secretaryship of Government. Year 1888.

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III. Also in *Talamánca* the health has been excellent. But there have been some unfortunate incidents on account of the storms they have had there. The bad weather began on the first of January and it continued until the 22nd of the same month. The floods of the rivers that bathe the whole of that beautiful territory were frightful; two Indians were drowned, many cattle, pigs and chickens and many plantations were completely swept over.

Besides, in the River *Jurquín* there was also drowned the Policeman, Manuel Vega, who was returning from *Old Harbour*, to which port he had gone with mail, losing the correspondence, a saddled horse and some other things. The Policeman Vega was a native of *Cartago*.

The roads of that colony have remained impassable at some points; but I am advised that the local authority has already taken measures for their prompt repair. According to what some old natives of that place say, it would seem that the effects of the bad weather like that we have just had are felt here every twenty years regularly.

In general the order of the Colony inspires the necessary confidence, which is indispensable in order that the community may peacefully occupy itself with the regular work; and I am glad to state that the disorganizing tendencies which some pernicious persons sought to instill into the innocent natives seem to have completely disappeared.

I take this opportunity to subscribe myself, Sr. Sec. of State, your attentive and obedient servant,

BALVANERO VARGAS.

Report of Don Aquiles Bonilla on the Colony of San Bernardo in Talamanca. Doc. 554

LIMÓN, April 12, 1888.<sup>1</sup>

Señor Minister of Government:

I have the honor to bring to the knowledge of the Minister the account of the trip to the Colony of *San Bernardo de Talamanca*, for which I was commissioned by Resolution No. 558, of March 26, last past:

I left *Limón* on Monday, the 26th of the month last past, at 12:30 p. m., in the little National Steamer "Juan Santa María," accompanied by Don José Ramón Chavarría, Don Temístocles Peñaranda, *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, and the garrison destined for the Colony of *San Bernardo*.

At 2:30 in the afternoon we found ourselves in front of the mouth of the River *Estrella* and in consequence of the rough sea the engine of the little steamer broke down, leaving us at the mercy of the waves, without any other means of saving the situation than a small launch of the Agencies Company, which was offered at the time of starting, without which we should perhaps have run the risk of greater dangers.

In this launch and notwithstanding the rough sea I disposed to go ashore, although we were six miles from the Port of *Cahuita*, accompanied by Señores Peñaranda and Don José R. Chavarría. After three hours of the worst navigation we arrived at *Cahuita*, where I gave orders to engage boats and men, sufficient to save the persons who had remained on board the little steamer; and due to the activity with which I worked in twenty minutes we had three boats and ten men. But as the place where the little steamer had been left was so deep that it could not anchor, it was at the mercy of the current, and the boats that went out to help it were not able to find it until very late at night, not only because of the bad sea but because it had changed its location, due to the current, which is very strong at that point.

On board everybody was so seasick that not a single man could be counted on to bail out the steamer, which took water in two ways, from the heavy seas that entered and the pouring rain.

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<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Department of Government. Year 1888.

Thus the panic which had seized everybody aboard at the sight of the first party in search of help was converted into a rejoicing; for at that hour of the night and in the midst of such a heavy squall no one expected to be saved and even believed that the small launch which had carried us to the land had been lost, such was the condition of the sea.

Once alongside the little steamer the boats, which had arrived at different times, towed it along, being already almost to the land, since the anchor was not enough, not even helping it with the propeller of the same steamer, to hold it at one place, for the current was so great that it was swept away.

The night was a regular campaign; the seamen in the boats worked until eight in the morning of the next day, when they succeeded in entering *Cahuita*, where the little steamer was anchored without any risk and all safe that were in it.

The bad condition of everybody, due to seasickness and the bad night, was the reason that we spent that day in *Cahuita*, where we divided the necessary resources among ourselves and the troop.

On the following day there arrived two horses, from *Old Harbor*, and we started at once for the shore, and after four hours of a very painful ride in a rainstorm we arrived at the port of *Old Harbor*. In this place we stayed all night, awaiting the boat with the provisions, equipment of the garrison and of Señor Chavarria, lodging in the house of a Señor Rib, (a Jamaican), who received us very well, furnishing us with everything to pass a fair night.

At eight o'clock of that night I started the inquest for which I was commissioned, and after various declarations, we retired to rest. Although the beds were not very comfortable our fatigue was such that we passed a delicious night, except for the fact of being awakened at two in the morning by an individual Horacio MacNisth, who lives in that port, (a man of bad antecedents, according to the reports given to me), with a gun in his hand asking the Governor to let him kill Benjamin Ortiz because he had come to his house to make love to a daughter. The owner of the house in which we were lodging, in view of such a preposterous petition, drove him away and made him leave very quickly.

The foregoing shows the way the inhabitants of these localities live, whose only law is their own will.

At 8 a. m., on the 29th of March, we left *Old Harbour* and arrived at *Cuabre* at 11 a. m. The view of this landing which is upon the River *Sixola*, is the most beautiful and it is the most important point, being the only way directly to the sea. This place presents to the view of the traveller a picturesque landscape; and the fertility of the soil offers many advantages for agriculture as well as for the breeding of animals, especially cattle and horses, on account of the abundance of good water, natural pasturage, forest products and very few things hurtful to breeding, which is very rare in places so remote as this.

After resting in the hut of *Cuabre* for an hour, more or less, until the arrival of the troop and some companies who came on foot, we crossed the River *Sixola* in a fine boat of Señor Fernández, which had been brought by his servants who awaited us at that point.

On the other side of the river we continued our march and arrived at "*Mastate*," a farm of Señor T. Peñaranda; in this place we were well received and they offered us a good breakfast, while we took some declarations, which being finished we continued the march as far as "*Cibube*," another fine cattle farm. We remained there a long time and we met twelve Indians who were sent to *Old Harbor* to bring the provisions and equipage of the garrison under orders that had been given them by the *Jefe Político*.

It being 3:30 p. m. we continued the march toward "*Piedra Grande*," a cattle ranch belonging to Señor Manuel Miranda, where we arrived at 5:30 p. m.

On this farm we passed the night rather badly, owing to the troop after reaching there taking possession of some orange trees and getting some bunches of ripe bananas, of which they ate more than was necessary. At midnight the soldiers were taken with a bad indigestion, with alarming symptoms, and the terrible screams they gave of "I am dying" woke us at once, thinking that the Cholera had broken out among them. We passed the night awaiting the improvement of the sick making them take

salt water with lemon, which made them throw up; when they had taken it, they became quiet, and in the morning they were well.

At dawn on the 30th, we proceeded in the direction of *San Bernardo*, passing some small farms and along a road that was never good, but without meeting any place that was dangerous, until we reached the farm of "*Braces*," where after having given a good ration of milk to the troop we rested for quite a long while.

At 1 p. m. we continued our march, reaching *San Bernardo* at 3 p. m., without having met with any accident the whole day.

The last day of March I continued the inquest, on which work I spent three days.

After having finished, I went to visit the principal *palenques*, not only to know the customs but to find out the most urgent needs of the Colony, of which latter I will inform the Minister.

The first *palenque* (Indian village) that I visited was that of "*Túnsula*," a former dwelling place of the Indian "Kings"; and I met a number of natives, not less than 200, there also being present two chiefs of the village, who received us with much coolness and indifference, although we had announced our visit the day before.

The following day we visited the *palenque* called "*Urén*," where an Indian lived called Palacios, whom the natives designated as "Alcalde Palacios," who received us with much courtesy, offering us "*chicha*" and chocolate without sugar, which according to their customs is the greatest favor they can show to a visitor.

We then went on to the house of the Commissary, where we were received in the same way as we had been by Palacios, who now accompanied us and they showed their condescension by satisfying our curiosity, so far as to execute their special dances to the sound of the tambourine, which they played while dancing.

On this occasion Palacios, for himself and in the name of his tribe promised us to have a ball ready to offer to the President of the Republic on the day that he should be pleased to make them a visit. It is to be noted that this Indian is the Chief of

the most important *palenque* of *Talamanca*, who has always been very faithful to the Government and is in most intimate relation with the *Jefe Político* of that important Colony.

During our stay in *San Bernardo* we passed a very pleasant time and the kind attentions which Señor Peñaranda showed us left nothing to be desired, as well as those of most of the people, who attended to our wishes in everything showed themselves much pleased with our visit, both with the object of it as well as because they were convinced that the Government was not neglectful of the important work of helping the progress of the Colony, as was shown by acts that were within the reach of everyone.

Those settlers were discouraged by the lack of guaranties, on account of the disorder that was prevalent.

On the 4th of the present month we left *San Bernardo* for *Limón*, embarking in a boat well manned, and we went down the picturesque River *Urén*, which empties into the *Sixola* eight miles below *San Bernardo*. At the time of departure from this place there began a heavy rainfall, which continued for an hour, but we were not detained by it. At the farm called "*Piedra Grande*," we landed and stopped for quite a while. Proceeding on our trip we succeeded in reaching "*Mastate*" at 5:30 p. m., where we spent the night. When we reached this place we noted that the main river had begun to rise, but thinking the rain would not be very great and that we could not run any risk we rested quietly at the place mentioned. As we reached there much fatigued we slept during the whole night, through the heavy rain which fell. When we awoke the day following the river was so swollen that it was impossible to cross it, so that we decided to remain the whole of that day, until the river fell and the rainfall ceased; but the rain continued with greater force and the river rose so that it overflowed its banks, flooding the house in which we were lodged, leaving it surrounded with water and consequently isolated, and in that situation we waited from one moment to another for new calamities; and as Señor Peñaranda feared the flood would increase he provided for bringing five boats to the door of the house to save us and save the family that lived in it and the animals they had, which were swimming about without being able to find any place to land on.

He also caused a hut to be established at the highest port of the land to transfer us to, but this was in vain, because the new construction was also flooded so that we thought of embarking in the boats to pass the night in them. This decision was not carried out for at 7:30 p. m. the river began to fall, though slowly, and we could consider ourselves saved from the danger of sleeping outdoors and the risk of losing our lives.

We saw that it was necessary to remain a couple of days longer, until the rains stopped and the river had fallen. When we reached the other side of the *Sixola* our spirits revived, considering ourselves beyond all danger, and we began our march. At the moment of departure we learned from a Jamaican that the sea was too rough, and we foresaw that we might expect new difficulties; and, indeed, on arriving at *Old Harbour* we saw that it was not possible to embark, so that we decided to go along the coast to *Cahuita*.

In *Cahuita* we met two prisoners who had been sent on in advance, who were compromised by the inquest I had taken. We were lodged at the house of the Justice of the Peace, Señor Smith, who showed us the same attentions than on the arrival. We remained in *Cahuita* until 11 a. m. the day following, awaiting improvement in the weather and preparing a good vessel which should carry us to *Limón*. The trip had been so hard for us that notwithstanding the falling rain and the roughness of the sea we embarked, desirous of reaching as soon as possible this port so as to rest after so many difficulties which we had encountered during our trip. As was natural our voyage was a painful one, but happily no accident happened, and we reached this port in the evening of the 10th instant.

I have finished the account of my trip to *Talamanca*. I proceed now to explain the needs of the Colony, which in my humble opinion it is urgently desirable to help.

It is indispensable to build a house for Barracks, the *Comandancia*, etc., the old one being useless.

It is also urgently needed that another house be built for a school, and a Master appointed.

In order that the Colony may have rapid communication, it is indispensable that two bridges of wood should be built over the rivers *Urén* and *Dicote*.



The postal service should be organized in such a manner that the mail man may go to *Talamanca* and return, at least twice a month, making the trip by boat.

From reports that I have received from the *Jefe Político*, Señor Peñaranda, in *Talamanca* surely can be found who can attend the mail service twice a month for the sum of \$40, giving a proper guaranty.

It is also needful to have a horse, with outfit, to carry the mail to *San Bernardo*. In the Colony the lack of a cemetery is felt, **for bodies are buried at the will of the relatives.**

It would be very convenient to appoint a boatman in the harbor of *Cuabre*, to facilitate the crossing of the river for persons who wish to establish themselves in the Colony, for on the contrary they have to remain in that place until chance favors them with a boat. The person who will fill that position would be well paid at \$15 monthly.

And finally, the settlement of at least fifteen families should be assisted, in order that the Colony take a start and its population increase.

With great consideration, I subscribe myself, Mr. Minister, your obedient servant,

AQUILES BONILLA.

### Report of the Governor of Limón.

Doc. 555

No. 83.

To the Secretary of State in the Department of Government and Fomento.

San José.

LIMÓN, October 26, 1890.<sup>1</sup>

The *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, referring to the month of September last reports as follows, concerning the public matters of that Colony.

He says that on account of the interruption of the peace of the Colony, agriculture has suffered considerably, so that the little which has been harvested in the present year has already been

<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Department of Government. Year 1890. Bundle 3.

used up at this date, in the same locality. That he has begun the repair of the roads, which means of communication were found to be impossible on account of the circumstances before mentioned. That the bad state of affairs in that territory, on account of the vagrants existing there, is disappearing and that fair and prosperous times may be expected.

Although two cases of chicken-pox have occurred in *Sureca*, this disease has not extended, due to the efforts put forth by the authorities, following medical advice, and the activity and zeal with which this delicate matter has been managed.

What has been stated is the view of the official referred to and which he has communicated to me. Permit me in turn to bring it to the knowledge of the Minister of whom I subscribe myself, with respectful consideration, the obedient servant.

BALVANERO VARGAS.

Doc. 556

### Report of the Governor of Limón.

No. 84.

To the Secretary of State in the Department of Government and Fomento.

San José.

LIMÓN, October 28, 1890.<sup>1</sup>

With great reason the Government of the Republic has always fixed its attention upon the virgin soil of *Talamanca*, and its efforts have been redoubled by the present administration, although unfortunately it has not been able to respond to so much enthusiasm and so much benevolence. Without mentioning any person, I think that up to the present time, the poor results of these laudable efforts have been the natural consequence of no employee having resided in the Colony under the required conditions. To arrange this point which is so important, by giving to that territory an official who shall be inspired with the public welfare, would be equivalent to establishing the basis of an era of prosperity for those native peoples. The fertility of the soil of *Talamanca*, its abundant fluvial waters, which make it so beautiful and the other natural riches which it possesses, are stimulat-

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<sup>1</sup> *Supra*.

ing agricultural undertakings, which are really the foundation of the prosperity, and growth of countries. I understand that at various times the Government has taken measures to favor honest and hardworking persons who desired to go as colonists. It has now some houses there ready for such purpose, cattle and horses; and if I remember rightly there is in existence a Decree which authorizes the Executive to provide also each colonist with the sum of \$17 monthly, for a time that is scarcely sufficient until they can begin to gather the products of their labor. Everything therefor is ready; and it only needs a little persistent effort in search of colonists, either in the country or outside of it; but it should be an indispensable condition that in looking for such colonists they should be poor people whose only occupation is the cultivation of the soil.

There is no need in *Talamanca* now for bartenders, musicians nor loafers; but it needs the man with the machete, the shovel and the plough to dig the ground and take from it the benefit that it is capable of producing.

To formally establish the Colony, therefor, should be the principal object, and for this purpose I beg to present to the high consideration of the Minister the following idea: it is this. The occasion seems to me most opportune for attracting colonists to *Talamanca*. The stoppage of the work on the canal at *Panama* and the great damages produced by the recent fires at *Colón*, have left in poverty many families, who would think it fortunate in the midst of their misery to find a hospitable place where with industry and natural resources they could repair their losses, at the same time finding a second mother country in which to live. A wise person, under suitable instruction, would clear fields for himself, overcoming a difficulty that has been met in which so much money has thus far been vainly employed. I understand perfectly, concerning this matter of so much importance and I have tried to humbly submit my present views which may be of some value.

With great consideration I subscribe myself, Señor Secretary of State, your very obedient servant.

BALVANERO VARGAS.

## Doc. 557 Report of Don Buenaventura Corrales on Talamanca.

SAN JOSÉ, June 3, 1893.<sup>1</sup>

Señor Secretary of State in the Department of Fomento:

SEÑOR SECRETARY:

I have the honor to report to you concerning the result of my exploration, "*Suretca-Cahuita*," made by order from your office, in search of a short and economic route, and located within the jurisdictional limits of *Costa Rica*, to connect the interior of *Talamanca* with one of the ports of the Atlantic coast.

Having made the necessary preparations and organized the personnel of the expedition, which was made up of 15 persons, we left *Sipurio* in the afternoon of February 26th last, in the direction of *Suretca*, where we were to begin the reconnoissance.

We passed the night there and the next day, the 27th, we crossed the *Tilire*, camping at an old hut that was left on lands denounced by Don Justo C. Selles.

We then started on in the direction N. 80° E. with few deviations, which, according to the general opinion among the Indians, is the one that leads directly to *Cahuita*.

We continued thus until we came to a small stream (a tributary of the *Tiliri*) called "*Cucoles*," distant a little more than a mile from *Suretca*;—level lands, very fertile and very suitable for agriculture.

We returned there to breakfast at 10 a. m. when we met with an accident as unexpected as it was lamentable, which caused us two days' delay in *Suretca*. One of the laborers who was opening the way, Ramón Fonseca, was bitten by a *víbora terciopelo* (velvet snake) two metres in length (eight fangs) on the back part of the left leg.

At the moment he called out we all hastened to his help; put a strong ligature around the knee, scarified in the form of a cross the eight punctures that he had and used the drugs that I carried for that purpose in the first treatment, (Curarina, alkali, concentrated carbolic acid, etc.), and carried him to the camp. But the poison worked so violently and so quickly that a few minutes

<sup>1</sup> National Archives of Costa Rica. Department of Fomento. Year 1893.

after he had been bitten blood came from all the openings and pores of his body. We fought the hemorrhage with all the medicines we had at hand, being compelled to stop a little at 4 p. m. when we determined to carry him to *Suretea* and to call in empiric specialist (Will Shepherd) who came some hours after, and devoted himself with the greatest zeal and diligence to saving the life of the unfortunate man. The night passed without any news, the hemorrhage ceased completely and the intense suffering which he had felt in his heart and bowels and feverish delirium which seized him almost at the instant he was bitten by the snake was ceased somewhat. We then considered him out of danger.

Nevertheless this improvement was transient and deceptive. On the next day the swelling assumed alarming proportions, extending to the whole left side of his body; the pain began again with greater intensity than before and gangrene began to show itself in the leg and in the testicles. The poor man continued thus all that day, throwing up black and coagulated blood, making terrible cries, delirious, calling upon God to avenge him against the *siguas* (foreigners), whom he in his ignorance considered the cause of his death, and offering the saddest sight that I had ever seen and the most touching that I had ever witnessed. He finally died with the most terrible suffering at midnight. \* \* \*

On the following day, March 1st, the body was sent in the direction of *Coén*, accompanied by the sorrowing family and five of the Indians who came in the expedition, relatives of the deceased. Already in the evening I had asked for a reinforcement of *peones* (laborers) the day before, and they came early that day.

At noon we broke up the camp and again started on our march. One hour after we passed the ravine of *Cucoles*, about 500 yards above where the accident occurred of which mention has been made and we continued opening our way.

After a little we began to ascend a hill of easy grade, level and wide, which, as we supposed, followed parallel with the course of the *Tiliri*. The little table-land which this hill forms is one of the most picturesque to be found in those regions. It presents a lovely view; with the charming valley of the *Sirole* which we left on our left hand, on the North side. The climate here is

cool and agreeable and in the bottom of the valley we could hear the stream of *Cucoles* which skirts the hill for a long distance.

We marched all that day over the hill, with very good weather and without having any accident to lament. The Indians were in good spirits and losing the profound terror with which they had been inspired by the death of their companion.

About 5 p. m. we camped at a gorge where we found a little stream. We had gone about four miles, counting from the ravine of *Cucoles*. From midnight until dawn it rained very hard. We attributed the change in the weather to the change in the moon.

Thursday, March 2. We breakfasted at 9 a. m. and began our march.

At the beginning of this day all went well. We marched and marched, always over the same hill, without meeting with any obstacle. On our left we had the same valley of *Sirole* and the ravine *Cucoles*. We made good progress, the mountain being open and the land quite level. But about 1 p. m. the configuration of the mountain completely changed. Crossing the tableland of which I spoke, we began to meet hills and hills, impassible and winding in great part, a labyrinth of cliffs and hummocks. Finally, late in the afternoon we began the descent of the ridge, which we found very difficult on account of the ruggedness of its slopes.

We had with us as mountain guide an Indian called Lackner, who in his youth had known these mountains; but it is certain that his knowledge was of very little value to us that day and during the whole of the expedition. He was entirely astray and with a thousand and one difficulties he succeeded in leading us to the ravine of "*Watsi*," where we arrived to spend the night, tired out and perishing with thirst, not having found any water for the space of four miles. The ravine of *Watsi* has its sources in the valley of *Sirole* and empties in the River *Sixoula*, near the farm of Don José María Albán.

In a word, the three last miles that we passed over on the 2nd of March seemed to us wholly unsuitable, even for a mule road. Altogether we advanced seven miles that day. During the whole night had a hard rain.

We left the camp of *Watsi* at 9.30 a. m. on the 3rd of March. The day was overcast and cloudy, but, on the other hand, we traversed lands that were level like a table, as fertile as those of *Sirole* and with a vegetation that was really gigantic. This level stretch must extend from the headwaters of the *Watsi* to its outlet into the *Sixaola*, and in my opinion its area is not less than twelve miles square. These lands, with those of *Sirole*, are unquestionably the flower of *Talamanca* in point of fertility.

The mountain region we found here to be very dense and rugged and so we advanced very slowly. It must also be noted that we had to make frequent stops on account of the heavy rains that fell that day. Altogether we advanced two and a half miles up to 4 p. m., at which hour we arrived at a ravine which the Indians call "*Bratzi*," notable for the large amount of mineral coal which is washed out by its waters. We had no accident of which to complain. We killed five snakes of the worst species known: 2 *tamagás*, 1 *terciopelo* (velvet snake), 1 *oropel* and 1 *castellana*, I was in danger of being a victim to the latter, which attacked me furiously, I being sitting on a stone on the banks of the ravine. We set up the tent about 75 yards from the left bank and there we spent the night.

Saturday, the 4th of March we continued our march very early. The plain of the Valley of *Watsi* ending, a very high hill was encountered and so steep that it took us an hour and a half to climb it. The toil of the poor Indians who carried the baggage and provisions was difficult and painful, beyond all exaggeration, as here with the greatest trouble one could hardly advance except on all fours, clinging to the bushes and vines and in fear of falling into the depths if by chance one lost his balance or the feeble root or vine gave way which served for support. The descent of this formidable hill was no less painful than climbing up. For an hour we were seeking for a place to go down. The guide, entirely lost, could not find a way to take us out of that difficulty. Finally fate took us to an old rubber-gatherers' path which happily led us to a slope of the hill, where we were able, although with much trouble, to get down into a little ravine they call "*El Carbón*." At first I thought that this would be the same ravine of *Bratzi*, or a tributary, which doubtless would go winding around the hill which we had just come

down, and which, therefore, following its course would take the road around to the valley of *Watsi*, a place to where I thought it feasible to carry it by the ravine of *Cucoles*. But later I found that my calculations concerning the matter were erroneous.

In this last ravine we found a cabin of some rubber gatherers which appeared to have been recently abandoned.

We then came to three hills, as steep and rugged as the former. We climbed up the summit of the highest one, both to find our way and to see what was the best direction to take. It was all to no purpose: which ever way we looked we could only distinguish ranges after ranges, each more difficult and impassible. It was necessary, therefore, for us to follow the range or ridge of the one in which we found ourselves and go forward. In places the range was so narrow that being in the middle one could overlook perfectly both gorges, with sharp cliffs going down almost vertically.

At 2 p. m., and under a torrent of rain which greatly impeded our progress, we reached a hut of some rubber-gatherers, located on the North-east slope of the ridge. This fortunate event reassured us somewhat, seeing that we were not entirely lost and believing, on the other hand, following the opinion of the guide, that we should find ourselves not far from the headquarters of the River *Hon-Creek*, from whence we could proceed without further trouble to the coast. Unfortunately it was not as the Indian supposed.

The rain continued to fall without ceasing. Notwithstanding this and although it was very late, I ordered a reconnoissance to be made towards the North-east, to see whether it was possible, as the guide believed, to get over the cliffs and defiles of the Cordillera and camp that same day on the banks of *Hon-Creek*. Towards night the guide appeared and the men who went with him, saying that they could not get through.

We had, therefore, to camp, about 100 yards back from the hut of the rubber-gatherers. The rain had already taken the character of a tempest. The clothing that we carried for changing and the supplies were entirely useless with the excessive rain. We passed a bad night, wet, sleeping in a swamp, without dry wood to burn, and what was worse, without any water, for in all that place I had only found one dirty puddle, fetid and foul. And the



place abounded in snakes: I remember that in setting up the tent and at scarcely the distance of two yards we killed two of the kind that they call *oropel*. At 8 p. m. I was taken with a violent fever and so I remained until the next day. That advance was of about ten miles.

It was on Sunday at 11, the 5th of March, and the storm, far from diminishing grew worse all the time.

At that hour we thought we could hear on the North-east the roar of the Sea, which stimulated us anew to start on our march. I directed a new survey in that direction, the same as the day before, in search of *Hon-Creek*, but without any result. With all that, at 1 p. m. we began to go down the hill in the direction where we heard or thought we heard the Sea. This was the most painful day that we had had since we left *Sipurio*.

Under a raging tempest, going up and down the endless sharp ridges, meeting the greatest difficulties, our strength already exhausted with the long march and the excessive labor of the previous days, soaked to our bones and almost without food, we went all that day without knowing surely where we were. The guide, as I said before was as uncertain regarding the right direction that we ought to take as any of the rest of us.

The compass was of no use to us in that intricate labyrinth, as, taking this or that direction, we had to turn back after much marching without being able to get over a high hill like a tower with perpendicular bluffs. Other or others directions were taken, and still always the same difficulty. The result of it all was that at 4.30 p. m., we had not only not advanced a step, but, unfortunately, we found ourselves completely lost and wandering in the midst of the most gigantic mountains and more imposing than we had ever been.

With the greatest discouragement, getting stiff with the cold and almost crippled, we sought to find the camp from which we had that day set out: and we marched, and marched without any result until night overtook us on the summit of a hill. We spent it there, as bad if not worse than the former, since the storm continued without giving us any rest. We had no provisions, no clothing, no shoes. The fever prostrated me the whole night, as well as one of the Indian porters. The humidity, the fatigue and the bad food and the excessive cold which we felt in that place,

together with the idea (certainly terrifying) that we were lost in those desolate mountains, did not allow us to sleep very much that night.

At dawn on Monday, the 6th of March, after taking some food, we started on our way, always looking for the camp from which we had set out the day before. This time we were happy enough to see about eleven the footpath of those who went on the previous Saturday to survey the slopes of the hill. We followed this and soon arrived at the place which we had been seeking.

From here we set out in another direction, following an old path of rubber-gatherers, and we went that day climbing up and going down hills as difficult as the others, until about 5 p. m. after a march of some twelve miles we succeeded in getting down the *Hon-Creek*. In descending the last hill a stick fell on my left foot, which caused a bad bruise, with which I was crippled and suffered terribly for the space of two weeks.

We made our camp on an island of *Hon-Creek* and passed the night without anything happening. We found a rubber-gatherer who offered to conduct us to *Cahuíta* by a path that he knew.

On March 7th, very early in the morning, we left there. From the reports that I had received concerning the sources of *Hon-Creek*, I supposed that we were very near the Sea, or, at least, that we would find level lands ending only in the bar of that river (North side of *Old Harbour*) ; but in this, as in all the rest, my expectations were not realized.

From that place to *Cahuíta* we met with an uninterrupted series of sharp cordilleras, impassable and not less rugged than those which we left behind. In places one had to look for a passage at the bottom of the course of the ravines and go thus long distances with the water up to the knees. Rather late and after a long and painful journey we came to a hill from the summit of which we succeeded in making out at a distance the Atlantic. We undertook the descent and at 2 p. m. we reached the coast, about a mile from the port of *Cahuíta*.

It not being our purpose to arrive at that place, it being still early and desiring to reconnoitre the abandoned pathway which Gen. Patiño opened between *Sibure* and *Cahuíta*, I arranged to march to *Old Harbour* by that path, which we could easily find.

Although very level, this pathway has the defect, which is certainly a serious one, of becoming impassible, particularly in the rainy season. And there is no way of draining it on either side. It may be said without exaggeration that it is all a swamp, from *Cahuíta* to *Hornela*, the place where it passes. The road that it could be made here would be quite long, expensive and not very reliable, as it lacks the two indispensable elements to form a good roadway: sand and stone. It follows parallel with the coast to *Hornela*, and from there it goes to *Sibure* (on the bank of the *Sixola*) there being in the middle between the two last places a difficult hill to get over and a wide swamp.

We reached *Hornela* a little before 5 p. m., and arriving at *Old Harbour* at nightfall, having marched that day not less than 15 miles, from the headwaters of *Hon-Creek*. The next day, the 9th, the expedition returned to *Sipurio*, from which we had set out *twelve days before*.

The foregoing account, taken from the notes in my diary, is too eloquent, Sr. Minister, to make it necessary for me to assure you that a cartroad or path for mules between *Cahuíta* and *Suretca* is a chimera, at least in the region which I passed over and ought not to be considered further. If any practical result is derived from this unfortunate expedition, it is to leave it settled, once for all, that in the present condition of *Talamanca* the Government should not think of a way of communication *purely by land*. At least that is my opinion.

Nature has provided *Talamanca* with its highway; and that highway is the *Sixaola*. There is no other. And as long as the Government wishes to do something for that rich territory, it should before everything else seek to open up that highway.

And this is not an undertaking beyond what is possible for the Government; but on the contrary I think that, considering ways of communication, there is none easier and cheaper than the river.

Let it be noted that I do not refer to "canalizing" the *Sixaola*, for that is already done; but I refer only to *cleaning* it out, taking out the logs that great floods have accumulated and taking out or modifying the few rapids that are met with between *Suretca* and the mouth of the *Urén* and *Cuavre*, so that a small tow boat of light draught can pass. All this work can be done without

technical surveys, with a few gangs of *peones*, each with an intelligent foreman. That is what is needed.

To give depth to the river in the 7 or 8 rapids which are found between *Suretea* and *Cuavre*, the largest of which has some 80 yards length, at the most, does not seem to me to be a difficult matter or very expensive, as it is believed here; first, because these rapids, contrary to what occurs in other rivers, do not concur with a sharp slope in the ground. That is, to its geological formation, but the dikes which were anciently formed that have given rise to accumulations of stones. In the second place because no rock is met with in these rapids, ledges or other material difficult to remove, only loose, small and round stones.

Besides this it is rare that at these rapids less than a depth of three feet is found, even at the periods of greatest dryness; and on the other hand it will not be necessary to take out the stones for the whole width of the river, but only for a space wide enough for the steamboat to pass.

Between *Cuavre* and the bar of the *Sixaola* there are no rapids, and therefore that long stretch of ten leagues would be ready for the passage of the steamboat, only by taking out or putting on one side a gathering of logs which were left by the great floods in the river, which is there as large and runs as level, perhaps, as the Seine.

This work having been accomplished, there will be two ways of communication in *Talamanca*: one a *mixed* one, repairing the short stretch of road which separates *Old Harbour* from *Cuavre*, about five miles; and the *fluvial* one, (*Suretea* to the mouth of the *Sixaola*), as soon as there is opened and connected with the river the excellent little port of *Gandoken*, distant some three miles from the bar. (It is known that the mouth of the *Sixaola*, as a port is very bad).

In former times,—I do not know whether it was up to the end of the XVIIIth century,—*Gandoken* communicated with the *Sixaola* by a channel, which the Indians closed purposely in order to keep away the *Mosquitos*,<sup>2</sup> whose frequent incursions into the interior kept them in constant alarm. Persons who know the traditions of *Talamanca* thoroughly assure me that the word "*Gandoken*," is the same in meaning as the English location,

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<sup>2</sup> The Mosquitos Indians.

"God's Work," with which the *Moscós* baptized that port, disfigured and corrupted by the Indians in a semblance of the expression, "*Oljaba*," *Old Harbour* (Old Port).

Now, then, let us calculate what is the most practical and economical,—to dig out and clean that channel, so that the little steamboat can touch at *Gandoken*, or make a cart road or a railway that will connect that port with the river, (three miles of level and dry land). Either of these would not be very expensive in my opinion. Some time ago General Patiño, authorized as I believe by the Government, proposed to clean out the channel and I do not know why he gave up the work.

Therefore, there are three projects to be undertaken:

1. Clean out the river;
2. Make a wide roadway between *Old Harbour* and *Cuarre*, winding out or forming "zig-zags" on the two large hills and draining the swamp at the entrance;
3. Connect the port of *Gandoken* with the river, digging out the old channel, or constructing a small rail line or a cartroad.

In my opinion all of these could be let by the job, on bids. The first would be on the basis of 3,000 or 4,000 pesos; the second for 1,000 to 1,500; and the third for a sum which may be indicated by a competent person familiar with the locality after previous examination.

As stops, or points of embarkation, in the interior, three might be designated:

1. "*Piedra Grande*," in case a long dry period should diminish the stream to such an extent that the steamboat could not go further up;
2. "*Boca de Urén*," (Mouth of the *Urén*) when it may be considered dangerous to go up it as far as *Suretca*; and
3. "*Suretca*," which would be the last landing and the most advantageous place to locate and settle a Colony.

This work being done,—and even in the present state of things,—it would be better to move the settlement where the authorities are located, to *Suretca*,—situated on the banks of the river, high, with good air, dry, picturesque, and there is no better place, as I have before stated, to locate a Colony.

There is a series of Colonies, about two leagues square, environed or surrounded by the rivers *Tilire*, *Lari*, *Suirri* (a branch

of the *Lari*) and the *Urén*. *Sipurio* is a low place, wet, unhealthy and its conditions are the worst for a settlement. Situated at a short distance from, or rather it might be said in the ancient basin of the *Urén*, a river terrible for its floods, it is exposed at any day to the fate that overtook *Carrillo*. It has the disadvantage, also, of being far from a navigable river. With all this, it can not be understood the plans the Government had in view when founding at *Sipurio* the Colony called "*San Bernardo*."

I believe, Mr. Minister, that the foregoing ideas are not out of place in this report, since the success of my exploration was not as great as had been hoped for. I submit it to your consideration respectfully, with the continued assurance that I am your obedient servant.

B. CORRALES.

Doc. 558

# An Exploration at the Head-waters of the River Teliri and Instruction Given to the Indians There, by the Padre Blessing, Missionary of Talamanca.

May, 1899.<sup>1</sup>

The River *Teliri*, now called *Tarire*, joins near *Surecta* with the Rivers *Coén* and *Lari*, forming the River *Sixaula*. Near *Surecta* were situated the city of *Santiago de Talamanca* and the fort of *San Ildefonso*, abandoned by the Spaniards in 1610, in consequence of the first insurrection of the Indians of *Talamanca*.

During the 17th century the Franciscan Fathers Observantines and later the Recollects had a station called *San Bartolomé de Urinama*, at the place where the road from *Chirripó* to *Cabécar* crosses the River *Teliri*.

About the headwaters of the River *Teliri* there always lived a large number of *Talamancas* Indians; but no missionary was bold enough to visit them on account of the roughness of the trail.

In 1881 the Illustrious Señor Bishop attempted to go up the river from *Sipurio*, and in 1895 to enter the Upper *Teliri* from *Chirripó*, but it was impossible to accomplish the trip on account of the fear the civilized Indians had of entering those high regions. Finally, the missionary in charge of *Talamanca*, the Pres-

<sup>1</sup> Published in the *Misionero del Clero* of San José de Costa Rica.

byter Don Agustín Blessing, in April of this year, was able to visit those Indians, up to now unknown.

We give a brief summary of his trip, making use of a letter in which he himself makes a report to the Most Illus. Señor Bishop.

Blessed be God and our holy Patrons, especially St. Joseph, for the happy outcome of my journey among the unknown Indians at the headwaters of the River *Teliri*.

This has been my most difficult journey,—even the trip from *Chirripó* to *La Estrella* was nothing in comparison with it. God visibly protected me, for, whilst upon my other journeys I have always had rain, on this last one I had the most beautiful and dry weather. Sometimes the heat was felt extremely, more in the narrow and shut-in valley of the stream.

I left our dwelling in *Sipurio* on April 8th and got back on the 3rd of May. The results of the mission exceeded all my expectations.

At the beginning it was not possible to find a guide and the porters left me daily; still, everything began to improve. The people ran away to the woods when I approached their *palenques*. This fear however was changed into a real joy and pleasure, which they received me and desired that I remain always among them. In the middle of the Upper *Teliri* they wanted to build a church and a large building for the Indians to meet in and another for the missionary, so that I might stay with them and never have to pass over such dangerous roads. "You stay, Good Father: you always stop here: when wilt thou come back to us?" So they said to me very often.

Seeing that they had so good a disposition, I changed my first resolution of only visiting the Indians, without baptising any one. When I asked them if they wished to be baptised and if those who lived with a woman desired to be married, they and the women without exception said to me: "Yes." For this reason I baptised 53 Indians and married 11 couples. The total number of Indians upon the Upper *Teliri* must be 90 persons. Upon the whole trip I baptised 63 persons and married thirteen couples.

I supposed that there were still other Indians in the mountain regions higher up in the Cordillera, those called "wild Indians;" but these no longer exist. I was told by these same Indians it was true that in times very long ago some Indians dwelt about the sources of the gulch of *Petzzi*, a tributary of the *Teliri*, on the right bank, but that the old ones had died and the younger ones had descended from the heights to live in the valley of the River *Teliri*.

There are two trails to *Chirripó*; one going up by the gulch of *Duchí*, reaching *Curardi* in two days; the other by the gulch of *Ducrí*, arriving at *Curardi* in a day and a half.

The routes from *Sipurio* to the Upper *Teliri* were comparatively good; that is to say, they were open, but still indescribably difficult on account of the character of the ground. The trail runs over hills and mountains covered with stones and large rocks. I and my companion lost a pair of shoes. At various places we got through with great danger of losing our lives; once we had to get over an immensely high rock, almost perpendicular, helping ourselves up with hooked sticks which we used to hand on to the vines that were suspended from above. We crossed the River *Teliri* thirteen times and were eight times in imminent peril, especially one day when it rained very hard upon the head-waters. The current once swept away my companion, but happily he succeeded in getting a new foothold.

The natives of the Upper *Teliri* are tall and robust. I only saw three sick children. Their dwellings are not circular, like the *palenques* of *Bribri* and *Urén*, but square, open on all sides, with a good roof and neatly put on. They are poor but all decently clad; they have fine plantain groves, few fowls and pigs. The hunting is very good. I saw only three head of cattle in *Tsiola*, the place to the South of *Chirripó*, that belonged to the deceased Cacique Sama.

Now, something about the Cacique Sama. This Indian was a decided friend of the mission. When he knew that



the Curate of *Sipurio* desired to visit the Upper *Teliri*, he directed the trails to be opened and cleared.

For quite a while he was ill with dropsy. On Good Friday his people thought that he was already dead and wanted to bury him, when they noticed that there were still signs of life. He did in fact die on the 22nd of April, one day before I reached his house. Oh! that God might give him the mercy of the baptism is my wish! By reason of the sickness of Sama I hastened my march, but the porters failed me one day so that I do not think that it was my fault that I did not arrive in time to baptise him. Upon that day, when the porters failed me, I made with two companions a little excursion to *Uruchicó*, ascending by the gulch of *Cobei*, which we had to cross forty times. The trail was a very bad one.

I believe that *Uruchicó* is the old *Santo Domingo* or *San Andrés*; *Nocru* is *Santa Cruz* and *Debequibir* ought to be the old *Santo Domingo de Urinamá*.

On the right bank of the gulch of *Petzei*, near *Tsiola*, there is an *apó* (burial ground) of the Indians, like that of *Chirripó*. Near the same place of *Tsiola* was found a hot water spring. The water is very hot. The Indians say that any one who touches the water will get the fever. I and my companions, naturally, remained free from fever. I told the Indians repeatedly that their belief was ridiculous but they only laughed, and were not convinced.

Then they told me about a salt lake, extending over eight or ten *manzanas*. They say that sea turtle and fish are to be found in it; also a certain monster that kills any one who goes near the lake. I offered to pay the Indians well if they would take me to the lake, but I was not able to get them to do so. The lake is located above the source of the *Brei*, on the right side of *Shórbata*, a high mountain we had to pass to get from *Breiñoc* to *Debetquibir*.

These are the most important facts that have been submitted by the Rev. Father Missionary.

We give thanks to God that in the last year of this century we have found out these Indians, the only ones to

whom up to now we have not been able to preach the Gospel. May God bless the labors of our indefatigable missionaries.

### Tribes of the Upper *Teliri*.

1. <i>Nocru</i> .....	with 12 inhabitants.
2. <i>Shueñoc</i> .....	" 4 "
3. <i>Doroi</i> .....	" 3 "
4. <i>Breiñoc</i> .....	" 9 "
5. <i>Sama</i> .....	" 12 "
6. <i>Debetquibir</i> .....	" 6 "
7. <i>Tsiola</i> .....	" 2 "
8. <i>Dicoquichá</i> .....	" 4 "
9. <i>Shórogri</i> .....	" 7 "
10. <i>Brujque</i> .....	" 3 "
11. <i>Suebata</i> .....	" 7 "
12. <i>Orú</i> .....	" 9 "

In the mountain region, between the Rivers *Teliri* and *Estrella* are found:

13. <i>Itoi</i> .....	with 5 inhabitants.
14. <i>Spei</i> .....	" 10 "
15. <i>Cocora</i> .....	" 15 "
16. <i>Tsuribcrari</i> .....	" 7 "

Upon the Lower *Teliri* are found:

17. <i>Chimuriñoc</i> .....	with 7 inhabitants.
18. <i>Famei</i> .....	" 5 "
19. <i>Famansa</i> .....	" 4 "
20. <i>Amciñoc</i> .....	" 4 "
21. <i>Segori</i> .....	" 5 "
22. <i>Shirores</i> .....	" 8 "
23. <i>Pancurqui</i> .....	" 4 "
24. <i>Uruchicó</i> .....	" 5 "
25. <i>Oscuri</i> .....	" 5 "

Contract Between the Government of Costa Rica and the United Fruit Company. Doc. 559

SAN JOSÉ, May 24, 1909.

OSCAR F. ROHRMOSER, Secretary of State in the Department of the Treasury and Commerce, duly authorized by the Señor President of the Republic, of the one part, and EDGAR JAMES HITCHCOCK, Administrator and Authorized Manager of the *United Fruit Company*, of the other part, agree to the following:

I. The Government authorizes the said Company to bring merchandise into the country across the frontier upon the Republic of *Panama*, but only at the place called "*Guabito*," intended for the supply of the depots or commissary departments which the Company may establish upon this side of the River *Sixola*, in order to provide for the maintenance of the employees and workmen of its enterprises and for the exploitation and development of the same.

II. The payment of the import duties arising upon such merchandise shall be made in this capital by the said Company, monthly, upon presentation of the respective custom house papers.

III. For the registration and appraisalment of the merchandise the Government shall establish, at the place called "*Guabito*," a subordinate office of the *Limón* Custom House, having therein a Sub-Inspector of the Treasury, and one other employee if it shall be necessary, for whom the Company agrees to provide food and lodging suitable and a place for weighing the merchandise and whatever else may be necessary.

IV. This arrangement shall not excuse the Company from compliance with the formality of petition and other things established by the laws in force as to the introduction of merchandise not subject to the imposition of a Customs Duty.

V. The Government shall give to the Sub-Inspector who may be established at "*Guabito*," proper instructions as to the registration, receipt and delivery to the Company of the goods that may be brought in, it being understood that the Government shall not be responsible therefor, except in case of pillage by the

Sub-Inspector or his subordinates, and then only while the same are under his control for registration, weighing or appraisement.

VI. This arrangement shall continue as long as the Government does not definitively provide arrangements concerning overland trade across the southern frontier of the Republic.

*In Witness Whereof* we have signed the present contract in the city of San José, on the twenty-fourth day of the month of May, Nineteen hundred and nine.

O. F. ROHRMOSER.

E. J. HITCHCOCK.

San José, May 24, 1909.

Let this contract be approved:

GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

The Secretary of State in the Department of the Treasury and Commerce:

ROHRMOSER.

**Doc. 560**      **Contract Between the Government of Costa Rica and Mr. Hubbard Moyland Field.**

SAN JOSÉ, January 31, 1910.

ALBERTO ECHANDI, Secretary of State in the Department of the Treasury and Commerce, duly authorized by the Señor President of the Republic, of the one part, and ARTURO VOLIO JIMENEZ, a person of full age, a lawyer and resident of the city of *Cartago*, as the Authorized Agent of Señor HUBBARD MOYLAND FIELD Y FOX, a person of full age, an engineer and resident of the city of *Limón*;—agree as follows:

I. The Government authorizes Field to import, at any point upon the bank of the River *Sixola* from "*Guabito*" to *Cuabre*, machinery and materials for railway construction, materials for the construction of buildings and the necessary goods for the supply of the commissary departments to provide for employees and workmen; but in no case shall this authorization be understood to extend to liquors or to any articles which may not be indispensable for the purposes indicated.

II. Field shall keep commercial books in proper form and there shall be entered therein correctly the class, number and gross weight of the merchandise imported. Whenever there may be in the same package different kinds of merchandise, it shall be indicated, together with the gross weight and that of each kind of merchandise. It shall also be the duty of Field to send to the Statistical Offices the consular and commercial invoices embracing the merchandise imported, added up, with the data required for the books.

III. The payment of the customs duties upon the articles imported shall be made by Field each month and he shall be required to show his books to the employees designated by the Government, and also be subject to the inspection the Government may establish and the arrangements made for better collection of imposts.

IV. Field expressly agrees to immediately advise the Government of any clandestine importation of merchandise that may be made in the district to which this contract relates and of which he may have direct or indirect notice.

V. This contract shall continue until the Government shall otherwise provide, which may be done at any moment by giving Field a prior notice of one month.

VI. Field renounces all diplomatic intervention in this matter and as to any question which may arise as regards this contract, which shall be left in all respects subject to the laws and tribunals of Costa Rica.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF we sign the present contract in the city of San José, the thirty-first day of January, 1910.

ALBERTO ECHANDI.

ARTURO VOLIO.

San José, Jan. 31, 1910.

Let this contract be approved:

GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

The Secretary of State in the Department of Hacienda and Commerce:

ECHANDI.

## Decrees and Resolutions Relating to Talamanca.

1873-1910.

SAN JOSÉ, December 10, 1873.

No. 234.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ, December 10, 1873.

To the end that the tribes of *Talamanca* may be helped morally and accord the respect due to the authority of the Republic, I resolve:

Let there be appointed, the Señor Antonio Birche, *Jefe Político* (Political Chief) of *Talamanca*, with the salary of thirty pesos monthly; the Señor Willie as Second Chief; with the salary of ten pesos monthly, while he fills obediently and humbly the position for which he is named; and the Señor John H. Lyon, Secretary and Director of the aforesaid *Jefatura Política* (District of the Political Chief), with the salary also monthly of forty pesos.

Ten pesos are appropriated for expenses in the administration of the aforesaid *Jefatura*.

Let it be communicated.

(A scroll).

HERRERA.

No. 154.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ, September 17, 1874.

Señor N. Willie having been appointed *Jefe Político* (Political Chief) of *Talamanca*, let there be appropriated for him the monthly salary of thirty pesos. The ten which were allowed for office expenses shall be continued, delivering the same to Señor Juan H. Lyon, at the same time the salary of Second Chief of that office being suspended.

(A scroll.)

HERRERA.

No. 29.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ, February 10, 1877.

Reports having been received that large quantities of rubber taken from lands belonging to the Republic are exported by the

River *San Juan* and by *Bocas del Toro*, thus defrauding it of the fiscal duties, without benefit to the commerce of the country, and desiring to favor the interests of the latter, it is

RESOLVED:

Two of the police officers located in *Limón*, under the instructions of the Governor, during two months shall keep a watch that all of the rubber which is gathered in the district is exported by the Port of *Limón*, for which purpose one shall keep watch upon the side of *San Juan* and the other at *Bocas del Toro*, with a view to preventing the exportation at those points.

The police officers who are engaged in this guard duty shall each receive an additional salary of twenty (20) pesos monthly. But in case this service can not be performed by the officers, the Governor shall appoint special persons with a salary of fifty (50) pesos monthly, who shall perform that service.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by H. E. the President of the Republic.

S. LIZANO.

No. 106.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, June 4, 1880.

Let the appointment of Señor Antonio Celdaño as *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, made by the Governor of the District of *Limón*, from the 23rd day of the month of May last, be approved, by reason of the offenses lately committed by William Forbes, who discharges the duties thereof.

Let it be communicated.

The Secretary of State in the Department of Government, in charge of ordinary business.

MACHADO.

## RESOLUTION NO. LVI.

*Increasing the Salaries of the Curates of Talamanca and Limón.  
Department of Culto (Worship).*

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ, August 23, 1881.

In view of the fact that the Curacies of *Limón* and *Talamanca* are, at the present time, disproportionately provided for, H. E. designated in the exercise of the Executive Power,

## RESOLVES.

Let the allowance assigned to each one of the said Curates be raised to sixty pesos monthly.

Let this be communicated.

Checked by H. E. designated in the exercise of the Executive Power : LIZANO.

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No. 171.

NATIONAL PALACE,  
SAN JOSÉ, October 31, 1881.

Let the license be approved, granted by the Governor of the District of *Limón*, to the Secretary of the *Jefatura Política* of *Talamanca*, Señor Juan H. Lyon, and let Señor Faustino Maines substitute him temporarily.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by H. E. the Señor designated in the exercise of the Executive Power. LIZANO.

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## RESOLUTION NO. LXXXVI.

*Exemption of Some Articles Brought in by the Bishop, From  
the Payment of the Maritime Imposts. Department  
of the Treasury.*

NATIONAL PALACE,  
SAN JOSÉ, February 26, 1883.

H. E. the general President of the Republic:



## RESOLVES.

Let there be exempted from the payment of Customs Duties a case marked "N. D. S., No. 24," containing three portable altars and two boxes for the administration of the sacraments to the sick, consigned to the Most Illustrious Señor Bishop of this diocese, and intended wholly for the use of the missions among the Indians, *Talamancas* and *Guatusos*.

Let this order be delivered to the Administrator of the Custom House of *Puntarenas*, to permit the removal from the warehouse of said case, which must not be opened until it reaches the capital.

By order of H. E., the General President of the Republic:  
Soro.

No. 342. NATIONAL PALACE,  
SAN JOSÉ, November 6, 1885.  
The Most Ex. Sr. General President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

That from the contingent fund of this Bureau there shall be paid at the disposal of Señor Don Francisco Alvarado, twenty-nine (29) pesos, to distribute among the natives of *Talamanca* who have been presented in a committee to the Government upon this date.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by H. E. the General President:

DURÁN.

No. 353. NATIONAL PALACE,  
SAN JOSÉ, November 13, 1885.  
His Excellency the General President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

To pay from the contingent fund of this Department to Señor General Don Rafael Villegas the sum of Five hundred and eight

pesos and twenty-five centavos (\$508.25), to cover the expenses incurred in the discharge of the commission to *Talamanca* at the end of the month last past, according to the certified account No. 99, dated the 12th of the current month.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by H. E. the General President: DURÁN.

No. 367.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, November 23, 1885.

H. E. the General President of the Republic,

#### RESOLVES:

That from the contingent fund of this Department there be paid to Señor Temístocles Peñaranda the sum of Three hundred and sixty-three pesos and ninety-four centavos (\$363.94), to cover expenses incurred by General Don Rafael Villegas in his expedition to *Talamanca*, according to the certified accounts No. 107, dated the 1st and 4th of the current month.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by H. E. the General President:

DURÁN.

No. 386.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, December 14, 1885.

H. E. the Señor General President of the Republic,

#### RESOLVES:

That from the contingent fund of this Department of Government there be paid to Señor Don Temístocles Peñaranda the sum of One hundred and seventy pesos and seventy-five centavos (\$170.75), in order to cover expenses incurred by Señor General Don Rafael Villegas, according to certificate of account No. 118, in his expedition to *Talamanca* in the month of October last.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by H. E. the General President:

DURÁN.

No. 13.

NATIONAL PALACE,  
SAN JOSÉ, January 12, 1886.

H. E. the General President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

To appoint Señor Don Liberato Zamora as *Jefe Político* of the territory of *Talamanca*, who shall receive the monthly compensation of Thirty-five pesos (\$35).

Let it be communicated.

Checked by H. E. the General President: DURÁN.

No. 17.

NATIONAL PALACE,  
SAN JOSÉ, January 15, 1886.

H. E. the General President of the Republic:

## RESOLVES:

To establish a bi-monthly postal service between *Limón* and *Talamanca*, by means of the National steamers "*Mora*" and "*Juan Santa María*," which ply upon the Atlantic coast.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by H. E. the General President: DURÁN.

No. 97.

NATIONAL PALACE.  
SAN JOSÉ, March 22, 1886.

H. E. the General President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES.

To give the charge of the *Jefatura Política* of *Talamanca* to the present Commander of that territory, Sergeant Major Don Ramón Hernández.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by H. E. the General President: DURÁN.

No. 33.

NATIONAL PALACE.

SAN JOSÉ, June 7, 1886.

The General President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

To grant a leave of absence for one month to Señor Don Ramón Hernández from his post of duty as Political Chief of *Talamanca*; and to appoint in the place of said Señor Hernández for the period of the leave of absence Señor Don Dositeo Soto.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the General President of the Republic,

DURÁN.

## RESOLUTION NO. C.

*Scholarship in the Normal School for Talamanca. Department of Public Instruction.*

NATIONAL PALACE. SAN JOSÉ, July 28, 1886.

Whereas, the most efficient means of leading into a civilized life the aboriginal peoples of *Talamanca* is to get them to take part in National Public Instruction; that when the Government has sought to establish a school in those regions the difficulty has always been the lack of competent teachers, since no one could be found who was willing to encounter the difficulties of living among so remote a people and conforming to the almost barbarous customs of those natives; so that to remove such difficulties undoubtedly the surest way will be to educate for account of the Nation, in the Normal School of this city, a young native, who shall later go back to his people to take charge of the school that may be established there.

By reason of the foregoing, the Señor President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

1. In addition to the scholarships which the National Treasury pays for in the Normal School of this city, under Art. 32 of the

Regulations thereof, one shall be created for the people of *Talamanca*.

II. Let said scholarship be given to young William Gabb Lyon, a native of *Talamanca*, who shall be subject to the provisions of the Regulations of the aforesaid school.

III. The expenses which shall be required for the education of the said young Gabb, during the present fiscal year, shall be paid out of the contingent fund of Public Instruction.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President of the Republic:

FERNÁNDEZ.

### DECREE NO. XLIII.

*Reorganization of the Colony of Talamanca. December 10, 1886.*

BERNARDO SOTO, General of Division and Constitutional President of the Republic of *Costa Rica*:

*Considering*, that inasmuch as the present organization of the Agricultural-Military Colony of *San Bernardo*, in the territory of *Talamanca*, has produced the immediate results which were had in view when it was established, it is now time to provide more efficiently for the civilization of the natives and to prepare for European colonization in that rich section of the Republic:

Therefore, under section 28, of Art. 102 of the Constitution,

#### DECREES:

Art. 1. Let the aforesaid Agricultural-Military Colony be reorganized upon the following bases:

(1) The military commander of the Colony shall exercise the local political command of the same, and for that purpose the respective Department of the State shall issue the proper appointment. Said chief shall receive a monthly salary of forty pesos, in lieu of that of sixty-five pesos which he has been paid up to the present time.

(2) In the place of a corporal and ten soldiers, a squad designated in the Budget for the garrison of the Colony, there shall be located therein with house and labor ten families of citizens, who shall meet the following conditions: they shall come from the interior of the country, be of good habits, accustomed to agricultural labor and number at least three persons in each family. The head of them shall belong to the "Army of Operations."

(3) The families shall be required to remain in the Colony, keeping open house and at work, for five consecutive years, except in case of illness, which may prevent it, qualified by the Government.

(4) The colonists shall have the right to receive, free from fees and expenses for measurement and title, the plots of land granted by the Law of December 21, 1885, that is to say: one parcel for a dwelling house and six *hectares* for the head of the family, with two *hectares* more for each child of either sex or age who may belong thereto.

(5) The head of the family shall receive by way of subsidy for his establishment in the Colony, the sum of seventeen pesos per month, during two consecutive years. The first quarter shall be paid in advance, if ~~its~~ use is guaranteed. The subsidy shall cease if the favored party makes a different use of that which is allowed or fails to conduct himself properly.

(6) The head of the family shall execute in writing an obligation, in which there shall be stated in detail the duties which he undertakes as a colonist.

(7) For the removal of the families who may go to establish themselves in the Colony, the Government will provide transportation upon the railway to *Limón*, and in the steamboat as far as *Old Harbour*, both for the individuals thereof, as well as for their baggage, cattle, etc.

(8) The petitions for the ten places as colonists shall be submitted, with proper references, to the Department of War, before the 15th day of next January.

(9) Any subsidized colonist who shall, without the permission of the local authority and by the withdrawal of his family, give

up his cultivation for more than six months, shall lose the improvements he may have made, which shall accrue to the benefit of the State.

Art. 2. The annual Budget of Expenses, for the Colony of *Talamanca*, which now amounts to the sum of Four thousand, one hundred and forty pesos, shall be reduced to the following:

Salary of the Chief.....	480.
Subsidy to the ten families of colonists.....	2,040.
Surveys, transfer and titles for plots.....	400.
Contingencies . . . . .	180.
	<hr/>
	3,100.

The difference of one thousand and forty pesos shall be left in the National Treasury as a saving in the garrison of *Talamanca*.

Art. 3. From the 1st of April, 1887, forward, the Colony of *San Bernardo* shall be under the charge of the Department of *Fomento* (Progress).

Given in the Presidential Palace, in San José, on the 10th day of December, 1886.

BERNARDO SOTO.

The Secretary of State in the Department of War:

A. DE JESÚS SOTO.

No. 29.

National Palace. San José, February 4, 1887.

The President of the Republic,

#### RESOLVES:

To entrust the *Jefatura Política* of *Talamanca* as an additional charge to the Military Commander of that Colony, Don Temístocles Peñaranda.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the President of the Republic,

Soto.

No. 551.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, March 21, 1888.

The Señor President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

That upon this date there shall be paid to Señor John H. Lyon the salary which may have accrued to him in the current month as Secretary of the *Jefatura Política* of *Talamanca*.

Let it be communicated:

Soto.

The Minister of Government:

GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

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No. 554.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, March 22, 1888.

The Señor President of the Republic,

Having in view the fact that some difficulties have recently arisen in the political administration of the Colony of *Talamanca* and that it is desirable that proper steps be taken to obviate them and to encourage the development of that settlement,

RESOLVES:

To commission the Under-Secretary of Government to make a visit to said territory and make a report to the Government of the result of his observations.

Let it be communicated:

Soto.

The Minister of Government:

GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

No. 555.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, March 22, 1888.

The Señor President of the Republic,



## RESOLVES:

That there be paid upon the order of the Under-Secretary of Government, who goes upon an official visit to *Talamanca*, the sum of Two hundred and fifty pesos (\$250) for the expenses of the trip.

Let it be communicated:

SOTO.

The Minister of Government:

GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

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No. 558.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, March 26, 1888.

The Under-Secretary of Government not being able to carry out the official visit to *Talamanca*, by reason of illness,

The Señor President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

That the Governor of *Limón* make such visit, in the place of said Under-Secretary; and place Don Balvanero Vargas in charge of the office at *Limón* during the period of the absence of the Governor.

Let it be communicated:

SOTO.

The Minister of Government:

GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

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No. 567.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, April 3, 1888.

The Señor President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

From the contingent fund of the Department of Government let there be paid upon the order of the Administrator of Liquors

and Tobaccos of the Port of *Limón*, the sum of Two hundred and ninety-four pesos and forty centavos (\$294.40), which are due to him as follows: Forty-four pesos and forty centavos (\$44.40) for forty litres of rum; and Two hundred and fifty pesos (\$250) for money supplied for the expenses of the expedition of troops sent to *Talamanca*.

Let it be communicated:

Soto.

For the Minister of Government:

The Under-Secretary:

JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

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No. 582.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, April 17, 1888.

The Señor President of the Republic,

#### RESOLVES:

To accept the resignation submitted by Don Temístocles Peñaranda, of the position of Political Chief of *Talamanca*; and to add his duties to those of the Chief of the Garrison of said place, the Lieutenant Colonel Don Mateo Molina.

Let it be published:

Soto.

The Under-Secretary of Government in charge of the Department:

JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

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No. 611.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, May 11, 1888.

The Señor President of the Republic,

#### RESOLVES:

From the contingent fund of this Department let there be paid the sum of Four hundred and eighty-nine pesos and forty-five

centavos (\$489.45) for expenses incurred upon the expedition sent to *Talamanca* in the following manner: Four hundred and thirty-one pesos and fifty centavos (\$431.50) to the order of the Administrator of Liquors and Tobaccos of the Port of *Limón*, for money furnished to the Governor of that port; and Fifty-seven pesos and ninety-five centavos (\$57.95) to Don José Ramón Chavarría for services rendered on said expedition during twenty-two days, counting from March 22nd to April 31st last.

Let it be communicated:

Soto.

The Under-Secretary of Government in charge of the Department:

JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

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No. 612.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, May 11, 1888.

The Señor President of the Republic,

# RESOLVES:

From the contingent fund of this Department let there be paid to the order of the Administrator of Liquors and Tobaccos of the Port of *Limón* the sum of Eighty-six pesos and ninety centavos (\$86.90), the final balance of the money furnished by him to the Governor of that port for expenses upon the expedition to *Talamanca*.

Let it be communicated:

Soto.

The Under-Secretary of Government in charge of the Department:

JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

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No. 19.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, August 16, 1888.

The Señor President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

That from the contingent fund of this Department there be paid to the order of the Political Chief of the Colony of *Talamanca* the sum of Seven pesos and fifty centavos (\$7.50), the value of services rendered for the official mail service between that Colony and the port of *Old Harve* (Old Harbour).

Let it be communicated:

Checked by the Señor President of the Republic:

FERNÁNDEZ.

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No. 33.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, August 22, 1888.

The Señor President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

From the contingent fund of this Department let there be paid to the order of the Political Chief of the Colony of *Talamanca* the sum of Seven pesos and fifty centavos (\$7.50), the value of services rendered for the mail service established between said Colony and the port of *Old Harve* (Old Harbour), during the current year.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President of the Republic:

FERNÁNDEZ.

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No. 125.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, November 7, 1888.

The Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power,

## RESOLVES:

That from the contingent fund of this Department there be paid to the order of the Political Chief of the Colony of *Tala-*

*manca* the sum of Fifteen pesos (\$15.00), for salary on account of the mail service between that Colony and the Port of *Old Harbour*, during the months of September and October last.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power:

The Minister of Government:

FERNÁNDEZ.

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No. 131.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, November 19, 1888.

The Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power,

#### RESOLVES:

That from the contingent fund of this Department there be paid to the order of the Political Chief of the Colony of *Talamanca* the sum of Seven pesos and fifty centavos (\$7.50) for salary relating to the mail service between that Colony and the Port of *Old Harbour*, during the current month.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power:

The Minister of Government:

FERNÁNDEZ.

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No. 141.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, November 24, 1888.

In view of the resignation which has been presented by Don Ramón Fonseca of the post of Political Chief of *Talamanca*,

The Señor designated in the exercise of the Executive Power,

## RESOLVES:

To accept that resignation; and in the place of Señor Fonseca to appoint Don Ildefonso Ulloa, and to create positions for two police officers who shall serve in that locality, each of them receiving a salary of forty pesos (\$40) monthly.

Let it be communicated:

Checked by the Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power:

The Minister of Government:

FERNÁNDEZ.

No. 144.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, November 28, 1888.

The Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power,

## RESOLVES:

That the allowance of One hundred pesos (\$100) monthly, which was appropriated for the Chief of the Garrison of the Colony of *Talamanca*, in accord with resolution of the Department of Police No. 214 of March 22nd last, be hereafter taken from the contingent fund of the Government branch.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power:

The Minister of Government:

FERNÁNDEZ.

No. 145.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, November 28, 1888.

In view of the fact that Señor Ildefonso Ulloa, appointed as Political Chief of *Talamanca*, shows that he lacks the means to provide for his transportation to that Colony, the Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power,

## RESOLVES:

To advance to said employee the salary corresponding to the first monthly period.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power:

The Minister of Government:

FERNÁNDEZ.

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No. 148.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, November 29, 1888.

In view of the fact that Señor Gerardo Hidalgo has no means to make his journey to *Talamanca* to take possession of the post of policeman in that locality, the Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power,

## RESOLVES:

To advance to him the salary corresponding to the first month of service.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power.

The Minister of Government:

FERNÁNDEZ.

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No. 159.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, December 12, 1888.

The Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power,

## RESOLVES:

That from the contingent fund of this Department there be paid to the order of the Governor of the District of *Limón*, the

sum of Twenty pēsos (\$20) for the expenses of transportation for the Political Chief and the police officers of the Colony of *Talamanca* to the Port of *Old Harbour*.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power:

The Minister of Government:

FERNÁNDEZ.

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No. 167.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, December 22, 1888.

The Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power,

RESOLVES:

Let there be paid from the Contingent fund of this Department, upon the order of Don Julián Smith, the sum of Two hundred and eighty pesos (\$280.00) for postal service between *Cahuitta* and the Port of *Limón*, from the 15th of April of the present year to the 15th of November last.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power.

The Minister of Government:

FERNÁNDEZ.

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No. 172.

SAN JOSÉ, January 4, 1889.

The Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power,

RESOLVES:

That from the contingent fund of the Department of Government there be paid to the ex-Comandante of the Colony of *San Bernardo* in *Talamanca*, Don Ramón Fonseca, Fifty-two pesos (\$52.00), for the hire of horses used by the First and Second



Comandantes of the said Colony, on trips they made from *San José* to *Carrillo* and from *Ojaba* to *Cahuita*.

Comandantes of the said Colony; on trips they made from *San José* to *Carrillo* and from *Ojaba* to *Cahuita*.  
 Checked by the Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power.

The Minister of Government :

FERNÁNDEZ.

No. 200.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, February 5, 1889.

The Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power,

#### RESOLVES :

From the contingent fund of this Department let there be paid to the order of the Political Chief and Comandante of the Colony of *Talamanca* the sum of Thirty-one pesos (\$31.00) for expenses incurred in lighting and for payment of postal service between that Colony and the Port of *Cahuita*, during the months of December of the past year and January last.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power.

The Minister of Government :

FERNÁNDEZ.

No. 5.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, April 10, 1889.

The Señor President of the Republic,

#### RESOLVES :

That from the contingent fund of this Department there be paid, upon the order of the *Jefe Político* (Political Chief) of the Colony of *Talamanca*, the sum of Twenty-nine pesos (\$29.00) for

expenses incurred in lighting and payments of postal service between that Colony and the Port of Old Harbour, during the months of February and March last.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President of the Republic.

The Minister of Government:

FERNÁNDEZ.

No. 50.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, May 7, 1889.

The Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power,

RESOLVES:

Let there be paid from the contingent fund of this Department, upon the order of the Political Chief of *Talamanca*, the sum of Fourteen pesos and fifty centavos (\$14.50), for expenses incurred in lighting that *Jefatura* and the payment of the postal service between that Colony and the Port of *Old Harbour*, during the month last past.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power.

The Minister of Government:

ZÚÑIGA.

No. 57.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, May 16, 1889.

The Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power,

RESOLVES:

That the salary for the current month be advanced to the Political Chief of the Colony of *San Bernardo* in *Talamanca*.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power.

ZÚÑIGA

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No. 62.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, May 17, 1889

The Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power,

RESOLVES:

That from the contingent fund of this Department there be paid, to the order of the Political Chief of *Talamanca*, the sum of Five hundred and twenty pesos (\$520.00), as salary for the postal service between *Limón* and *Old Harbour*, at Forty pesos (\$40) monthly, from the first of April of the year last past down to the end of the last month.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power.

The Minister of Government:

ZÚÑIGA.

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No. 113.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, June 26, 1889.

On account of Señor Don Mateo Molina, *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* being prevented by illness from discharging the duties of his position for some time,

The Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power,

RESOLVES:

To grant him leave of absence from his post for the period of two months, and to appoint for the purpose of taking his place during his absence the Señor Don Juan León.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President:

ZÚÑIGA.

No. 120.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, July 3, 1889.

The Vice-President in the exercise of the Presidency of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To appropriate the sum of Forty-seven pesos and fifty centavos (\$47.50), to pay the cost of postal service from *Limón* to the Colony of *San Bernardo* in *Talamanca*, for the month of June last, and provide that this sum be taken from the contingent fund of this Department.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President.

The Under-Secretary:

JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

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No. 121.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, July 3, 1889.

The Vice-President in exercise of the Presidency of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

That there be paid from the contingent fund of this Department, to the order of the Political Chief of *Talamanca*, Seven pesos (\$7.00), being the amount for the lighting of the Barracks of that place, in the month of June last.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President.

The Under-Secretary:

JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

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No. 122.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, July 4, 1889.

The Vice-President in exercise of the Executive Power,

## RESOLVES:

That there be paid from the contingent fund of this Department, to the order of the Governor of *Limón*, the sum of Three hundred and nineteen pesos and fifteen centimos (\$319.15), the amount of the expenses incurred on the trip which he made in the month of April last to the Colony of *Talamanca*, by order from this Department.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President:

ZÚÑIGA.

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No. 123.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, July 9, 1889.

In consideration of the difficulties which are encountered in the discharge of the duties of the Political Chieftainship of the Colony of *San Bernardo* in *Talamanca*,

The Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power,

## RESOLVES:

To increase by the sum of Twenty-five pesos (\$25.00) the monthly allowance for that *Jefatura*, which shall be appropriated from the Contingent Fund of the Government; and to provide that such increase take effect from the 18th of May last.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President:

ZÚÑIGA.

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No. 163.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, August 2, 1889.

Having seen the petition of Señor Don Aquiles Bonilla, of this date, in which he claims reimbursement for the extraordinary expenses incurred on three journeys which he made to *Talamanca*, under commissions from the Government, and for ser-

vices rendered as Principal Chief of Police, in addition, in several months of this year, when he discharged the duties of the Government of that District; and considering his petition a just one;

The Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power,

#### RESOLVES:

That there be paid from the contingent fund of this Department the sum of Five hundred pesos (\$500.00) to Señor Bonilla, in compensation for the expenses and services mentioned.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President:

DE LA GUARDIA.

No. 222.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, September 23, 1889.

The Señor President of the Republic,

#### RESOLVES:

To grant permission, for the period of three months, to Don Mateo Molina, to leave his post as Political Chief of *Talamanca*, and to substitute temporarily in that office Don Juan Lyon, the Secretary of the same.

• Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

VENEGAS.

No. 257.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, October 19, 1889.

The President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

That Don Mateo Molina be paid, from the contingent fund of Government, the sum of One hundred and ten pesos and sixty-five centavos (\$110.65), for the amount of various extraordinary expenses incurred in the Colony of *San Bernardo in Talamanca*, as per statement, from the month of April to date.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President:

FERNÁNDEZ.

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No. 336.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, November 25, 1889.

On account of Don Mateo Molina, the Political Chief of the Colony of *San Bernardo in Talamanca*, having gone to render his services at another post,

The person designated in the exercise of the Presidency of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

To appoint permanently for the discharge of the duties of that *Jefatura* General Don Carlos Patiño, with the salary prescribed by law.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Vice-President:

ALVARADO.

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No. 341.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, November 27, 1889.

The Vice-President in the exercise of the Presidency of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

To advance, on this date, to General Don Carlos Patiño the sum of one hundred and twenty-five pesos (\$125.00), the first

monthly installment belonging to him as Political Chief of *Talamanca*, which must be deducted from the 25th of this month.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President:

ALVARADO.

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No. 369.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, December 16, 1889.

The Vice-President in the exercise of the Presidency of the Republic,

#### RESOLVES:

That there be paid from the contingent fund of the Government, to the order of the Governor of *Limón*, the sum of Twenty-five pesos (\$25.00), the amount of the transportation of the Political Chief of *Talamanca* from that port to *Old Harbour*.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President:

ALVARADO.

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No. 457.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, March 1, 1890.

Having seen the official communication, No. 121, of the 27th of the month last past, in which the Governor of the District of *Limón* makes a report of having given permission to the Señor General Don Carlos Patiño to leave his charge of Political Chief of *Talamanca* for the period of fifteen days, the duties thereof being temporarily entrusted to the Secretary of that Bureau, Don Juan Lyon,

The Vice-President in the exercise of the Presidency of the Republic,



## RESOLVES:

To approve such action.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President:

ALVARADO.

No. 465.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, March 7, 1890.

The Vice-President in the exercise of the Presidency of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

To advance to General Don Carlos Patiño the sum of One hundred and twenty-five pesos (\$125.00), the amount of the salary belonging to him as Political Chief of *Talamanca*, during the month of April proximo.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President:

ALVARADO.

No. 477.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, March 29, 1890.

The Vice-President in the exercise of the Presidency of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

That there be paid, from the contingent fund of this Department, upon the order of the Governor of the District of *Limón*, the sum of Eighteen pesos (\$18.00), for the purpose of payment of transportation on a voyage from said port to *Old Harbour*, taking employees of the Government.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President:

ALVARADO.

No. 11.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, April 15, 1890.

The Vice-President in the exercise of the Presidency of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

That there be paid, from the contingent fund of this Department, to Don José Ramón Chavarría, the sum of Three hundred and seven pesos (\$307.00), the amount of expenses incurred by the Commission for the inspection of the offices subordinate to the *Registro del Estado Civil* in the city of *Limón* and the Colony of *San Bernardo* of *Talamanca*, in accordance with Article 70 of the Organic Law and the Regulations for the said *Registro*.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor Vice-President:

ALVARADO.

No. 89.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, June 26, 1890.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

That there be paid from the contingent fund of this Office, to the order of the Political Chief of *Talamanca*, the sum of Ninety-eight pesos (\$98.00), the amount of various articles which were needed for the service of the office of that *Jefatura*.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President:

LIZANO.

No. 92.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, July 1, 1890.

Considering, that the want of a physician in the Colony of *San Bernardo* of *Talamanca* is a reason which keeps away many

persons who would like to settle there, which is prejudicial to its increase and development; and that the *Protomedicato* (Medical Board) of the Republic has authorized Señor C. A. King to practice as such in that locality;—

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To appoint the said Señor King as physician for the settlement of the said Colony, with a monthly allowance of Sixty pesos (\$60.00), which shall be paid from the contingent fund of this Office.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

LIZANO.

No. 97.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, July 4, 1890.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To advance to Señor C. A. King, appointed under No. 92 of the 1st of the present month as physician for the settlement of the Colony of *San Bernardo* of *Talamanca*, the sum of Sixty pesos (\$60), for his salary during the present month.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President:

LIZANO.

No. 117.

National Palace.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

That there be paid, from the contingent fund of this Department, to the order of Doctor Don Pánfilo J. Valverde, the sum

of Six hundred and seventy-seven pesos and sixty-five centavos, (\$677.65), the amount of a quantity of medicines which were purchased to establish a drug store in the Colony of *San Bernardo* of *Talamanca*, and Thirty-five pesos (\$35.00) for the cost of transportation of the same to the Port of *Limón*.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President :

LIZANO.

No. 130.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, August 11, 1890.

The President of the Republic,

#### RESOLVES :

That there be paid from the contingent fund of this Department, the following items: Five pesos (\$5.00) to the order of Mr. H. Lyon, the amount of a ream of paper and other articles which were purchased for the use of the office of the Political Chief of *Talamanca*; and Two pesos and seventy-five centavos (\$2.75), to the order of Don Vicente Lines, the amount of a Spanish Grammar, bought for the use of this office of Secretary.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President :

LIZANO.

No. 154.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, September 11, 1890.

The President of the Republic,

#### RESOLVES :

That there be paid, from the contingent fund of this Department, to the order of the Political Chief of *Talamanca*, the sum of Ninety pesos (\$90.00), the amount of the cost of hiring a boat and three

horses for the service of the persons who accompanied the Fiscal Agent of this city, who was commissioned by the Secretaryship to visit that Colony in the month of March last, and the cost of a seal which was purchased for the use of the office of that Political Chief.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President:

LIZANO.

No. 315.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, March 6, 1891.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

That there be paid, from the contingent fund of the Government, to the order of Don William Smith, the sum of Fifty-seven pesos (\$57.00), the amount of the hire of a boat for the transportation of the Commission sent by the Government in May of last year, from *Cahuita* to *Sixaola*.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President:

LIZANO.

No. 328.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, March 20, 1891.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

That there be paid, from the contingent fund of this Office, to the order of the Doctors Durán and Núñez, the sum of Twenty-one pesos and fifty-five centavos (\$21.55), the value of various

medicines which they furnished on the 6th of March of the year last past for use of the Colony of *Talamanca*, as per account submitted.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President :

LIZANO.

No. 11.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, April 8, 1891.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES :

To appoint Colonel Don Francisco Alvarado Mora as Political Chief of the Colony of *San Bernardo of Talamanca*, with the salary provided by law, in the place of General Don Carlos Patiño.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President :

LIZANO.

No. 92.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, June 30, 1891.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES :

That from the contingent fund of this Department there be paid, to the order of the Governor of the District of *Limón*, the sum of One hundred and fifty pesos and ten centavos (\$150.10), to which the expenses amount incurred by him on his official visit to the Colony of *San Bernardo of Talamanca*, as per accounts presented.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President :

LIZANO.

No. 204.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, November 25, 1891.

The President of the Republic.

RESOLVES:

To appoint Don Bernardino Peralta Echeverría as Political Chief of *Talamanca*, with the legal salary, in the place of Don Francisco Alvarado Mora, who resigned that post.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

LIZANO.

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No. 218.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, December 14, 1891.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

That there be paid from the contingent fund of this Department Four hundred and seventy-one pesos and fifty centavos, (\$471.50), to the order of the Political Chief of *Talamanca*, Don Bernardino Peralta Echeverría, the amount for several horses and articles which he purchased for the service of that Colony, as per accounts presented.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President:

LIZANO.

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No. 219.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, December 14, 1891.

Don Juan H. Lyon, who discharged the duties of Secretary of the *Jefatura Política* of *Talamanca*, having died.

The President of the Republic.

medicines which they furnished on the 6th of March of the year last past for use of the Colony of *Talamanca*, as per account submitted.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President:

LIZANO.

No. 11.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, April 8, 1891.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To appoint Colonel Don Francisco Alvarado Mora as Political Chief of the Colony of *San Bernardo* of *Talamanca*, with the salary provided by law, in the place of General Don Carlos Patiño.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

LIZANO.

No. 92.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, June 30, 1891.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

That from the contingent fund of this Department there be paid, to the order of the Governor of the District of *Limón*, the sum of One hundred and fifty pesos and ten centavos (\$150.10), to which the expenses amount incurred by him on his official visit to the Colony of *San Bernardo* of *Talamanca*, as per accounts presented.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President:

LIZANO.



No. 204.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, November 25, 1891.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To appoint Don Bernardino Peralta Echeverría as Political Chief of *Talamanca*, with the legal salary, in the place of Don Francisco Alvarado Mora, who resigned that post.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

LIZANO.

---

No. 218.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, December 14, 1891.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

That there be paid from the contingent fund of this Department Four hundred and seventy-one pesos and fifty centavos, (\$471.50), to the order of the Political Chief of *Talamanca*, Don Bernardino Peralta Echeverría, the amount for several horses and articles which he purchased for the service of that Colony, as per accounts presented.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President:

LIZANO.

---

No. 219.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, December 14, 1891.

Don Juan H. Lyon, who discharged the duties of Secretary of the *Jefatura Política* of *Talamanca*, having died.

The President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

To name for the filling of this position Don Jesús Kurtze, with the legal salary.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

LIZANO.

No. 277.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, March 22, 1892.

The President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

To appoint Don Domingo Troyo as Secretary of the *Jefatura Política* of *Talamanca*, in the place of Don Jesús Kurtze, who has resigned that post, and to allow Señor Troyo his salary from the 1st of the present month, the date upon which he began to render his services.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

LÉON PÁEZ.

No. 9.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, April 9, 1892.

The President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

That from the contingent fund of the Government there be paid to the Political Chief of *Talamanca* the sum of Ninety-one pesos and fifty-two centavos (\$91.52), being the amount of salary

accruing to him during five days of November and seventeen days of December last.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President:

LÉON PÁEZ.

No. 60.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, June 25, 1892.

The President of the Republic,

# RESOLVES:

To accept the resignation of Don Bernardino Peralta Echeverría of the post of Political Chief of *Talamanca* submitted by him and to appoint temporarily in his stead Dr. Don Hilario Zeledón.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

VARGAS M.

No. 75.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, July 11, 1892.

With a view of improving the administrative service of the Colony of *Talamanca*, the President of the Republic,

# RESOLVES:

To increase to Two hundred and fifty pesos (\$250.00) the allowance monthly for the Political Chief of that Colony; to appoint to fill that post Don Buenaventura Corrales and to abolish the position of Secretary of the said *Jefatura*. The increase in expense shall be charged to the contingent fund of this Department.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

VARGAS M.

No. 76.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, July 12, 1892.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To advance to the Political Chief of *Talamanca*, Don Buena-ventura Corrales, the salary belonging to him during the month which began yesterday. This sum shall be deducted in five parts from the allowance of said employee in the five months following.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President:

VARGAS M.

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No. 87.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, July 25, 1892.

With a view to the improvement of the public service the President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

That hereafter the mail between *San Bernardo* and *Old Harbour* shall be weekly; and that the employee who performs that service shall receive a monthly salary of twenty pesos (\$20.00). The difference between that sum and the amount stated in the Budget shall be charged to the contingent fund of the Government.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

VARGAS M.

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No. 154.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, September 20, 1892.

The President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

That from the contingent fund of this Department there be paid to the Political Chief of *Talamanca* the sum of Thirteen pesos (\$13.00), to cover the special expenses incurred in the postal service between *Old Harbour* and *San Bernardo* during the month of July last.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President:

VARGAS M.

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No. 82.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, August 2, 1893.

The President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

To accept the resignation of Don Buenaventura Corrales presented by him of the post of Political Chief of *Talamanca* and to temporarily add the duties thereof to those of the School-master of that Colony, Don Manuel Vargas R, with one-half of the salary assigned in the Budget now in effect.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

VARGAS M.

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No. 92.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, August 18, 1893.

The President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

To appoint Don Jacinto Xirinach as Political Chief of *Talamanca*, with the monthly salary of One hundred pesos (\$100.00).

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

VARGAS M.

No. 151.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, November 15, 1893.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To establish the position of Assistant Secretary of the *Jefatura Política* of *Talamanca*, with the monthly allowance of Twenty-five pesos (\$25.00), and to appoint to fill this position Don Alfonso Salazar C. This expense will be taken from the contingent fund of the Government.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

RICARDO PACHECO.

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No. 56.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, June 13, 1894.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To accept the resignation submitted by Don Jacinto Xirinach of the position of Political Chief of *Talamanca* and to appoint in his stead Don Lorenzo Castro Araya, with the legal salary.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

ULLOA.

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No. 225.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, January 26, 1895.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To approve the contract, dated the 20th instant, made by the General Director of Posts with Señor John H. Patis, under which

the latter agrees to perform the mail service between the Port of *Limón* and *Old Harbour*, making for that purpose one trip weekly, for the monthly compensation of Fifty pesos (\$50.00). The increase of expense above the amount of the item in the Budget for that purpose shall be charged to the contingent fund of this Department.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

ULLOA.

No. 74.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, July 3, 1895.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To accept the resignation of the post of Political Chief of *Talamanca*, which has been presented by Don Lorenzo Castro and to appoint in his place Don Alejo Marín J.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

ULLOA.

No. 81.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, July 9, 1895.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To advance to Don Alejo Marín J. one-half of the first salary due to him as Political Chief of *Talamanca*.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

The Under-Secretary:

PEDRO LORÍA.

No. 293.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, March 6, 1897.

In view of the services rendered by Don Alejo Marín Jiménez as Political Chief of *Talamanca* and that the illness which caused his death was contracted in the discharge of the duties of that post, the President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

That Doña Enaida Zeledón, the widow of Marín, be assisted from the contingent fund of this Department with the sum of Three hundred pesos (\$300.00), on account of the funeral and burial expenses of her husband.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President:

ULLOA.

No. 1.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, April 1, 1897.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To appoint Don Rogelio Pérez as Political Chief of *Talamanca*.

Checked by the Señor President:

ULLOA.

No. 30.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, May 7, 1897.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To grant to Don Rogelio Pérez the leave asked for to absent himself for fifteen days from his post as Political Chief of *Talamanca*.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

ULLOA.



No. 122.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, August 20, 1897.

Don Rogelio Pérez having gone to fill another position, the President of the Republic,

# RESOLVES:

To appoint Don Valentín Urbina as Political Chief of *Talamanca*.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

ULLOA.

No. 296.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, March 28, 1898.

The President of the Republic,

# RESOLVES:

To grant to the Political Chief of *Talamanca*, Don Valentín Urbina, leave to be absent from his post, for a period of as much as one month, and receiving one-third of the salary, on account of illness, as legally shown, and Don Justiniano García is named to take his place during that time.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

ULLOA.

No. 166.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, October 3, 1898.

The President of the Republic,

# RESOLVES:

To appoint as Political Chief of *Talamanca* Don Tranquilino Badilla to take the place of Don Valentín Urbina, whose resigna-

tion has been accepted, and to provide that the headquarters of said authority shall hereafter be in *Cahuita*.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

ASTÚA AGUILAR.

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No. 7.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, April 10, 1898.

The Vice-President in the exercise of the Presidency of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To extend to the 30th of the present month of April the leave granted by the Governor of the District of *Limón* to the Political Chief of *Talamanca*, Don Tranquilino Badilla B. to be absent from his duties and to provide that during the same time Señor Paulino Méndez Police Agent of *Sipurio* may continue to act for him.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor designated:

PACHECO.

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No. 136.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, October 6, 1899.

The President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To grant leave to Don Tranquilino Badilla B., Political Chief of *Talamanca*, to be absent from his post up to two months longer, and to appoint in his stead for a like period Don Luis Mejía.

Let it be published.

Checked by the Señor President:

PACHECO.

No. 188.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, December 22, 1899.

While Don Vicente Rodríguez occupies the post of Political Chief of *Talamanca*, in view of the fact that he ought to exercise the functions of an authorized medical practitioner, the President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

To raise the monthly allowance assigned to that employee to Two hundred pesos (\$200.00).

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President:

PACHECO.

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No. 160.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, November 30, 1900.

Having noted that the Budget of the General Postal Service was insufficient to meet all the expenses of the service, the President of the Republic,

RESOLVES:

That out of the contingent fund of this Department there shall continue to be paid the sum of One hundred *colones* (\$100.00) monthly, to the contractor for the mail between *Limón* and *Old Harbour*.

Let it be communicated.

Checked by the Señor President:

PACHECO.

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No. 114.

National Palace.

SAN JOSÉ, June 25, 1907.

The President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

That from the contingent fund of this Department there be paid, to the order of the Political Chief of *Talamanca*, the sum of Three hundred and ninety-eight *colones* and ninety *céntimos* (\$398.90), to be used for the purchase of various articles of hardware and tools for the use of the Government in that region.

Let it be communicated.

GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

The Secretary of State in the Department of Government:

VOLIO.

No. 98.

SAN JOSÉ, May 22, 1909.

In view of the necessity of creating a Customs Guard under the Department of the Treasury, for the Section of *Sixola*, the President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

To establish in that zone a Fiscal Customs Guard, with a station at the place called "*Guabito*," the *personel* of which shall consist of: one Sub-Inspector of the Treasury, with an allowance of \$191.25 monthly; and three guards at \$58.80 each. Until the respective item is voted for in the Budget these sums will be appropriated from the contingent fund of this Office.

Let it be communicated.

GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

The Secretary of State in the Department of the Treasury and Commerce:

ROHRMOSER.

No. 99.

SAN JOSÉ, May 22, 1909.

The President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

To appoint Don Victoriano Garro Morales as Sub-Inspector of the Treasury for *Sixola*, with the allowance fixed for that post.

Let it be communicated.

GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

The Secretary of State in the Department of the Treasury:

ROHRMOSER.

No. 229.

SAN JOSÉ, May 13, 1910.

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The President of the Republic,

## RESOLVES:

That Don Federico J. Alvarado, Political Chief freeholder of *Talamanca*, absent on leave under Resolution No. 634 of the 6th of December last, may return to the discharge of his duties, it appearing that he gives up the time that remains before the maturity of his leave.

Let it be published.

JIMÉNEZ.

The Secretary of State in the Department of Government:

C. M. JIMÉNEZ.

Letters, Reports and Telegrams From the Governors of the District of Limón and the Political Chiefs of Talamanca, Addressed to the Department of Government. Doc. 562

1897-1910.

CARLOS MARÍA JIMÉNEZ ORTIZ, Secretary of State in the Department of Government, certifies:

That in this office there are found in the archives the authentic documents which read as follows:

## I.

No. 264.

Señor Secretary of State in the Department of Government,  
San José.

LIMÓN, January 8, 1897.

The Political Chief of *Talamanca*, in communication No. 168, of the 5th instant, tells me the following:

"After my labors of the year just past and the tribulations I have seen on account of the high waters of the 11th of December, a rest is very just after the end of six months. I wish to leave for the interior in the coming February and for that purpose ask for thirty days' leave. There will be no delay in the service, and as to the road, its execution is perfectly organized."

I beg to forward it to the Minister in order that he may take the proper action thereon, taking advantage of this opportunity to subscribe myself your very attentive servant.

BALVANERO VARGAS.

## II.

No. 167.

Sr. Governor of *Limón*.

SIPURIO, January 4, 1897.

SEÑOR GOVERNOR:

In communication No. 13, of September 3, 1895, addressed to the Minister of Government, I stated to that high official how *Talamanca* would prosper locating a settlement in a regular way at a good place. I made other important observations concerning that point.

In No. 39, dated October 29 of the same year, in a long statement, I showed to Your Excellency and through you to the Government, so that it could decide, the necessity for moving the barracks, the school and establishing the settlement on the old *Sipurio*, a high and good place.

Afterwards, on the 21st of December of the same year, 1895, in No. 50, I advised you how the high floods in the neighboring rivers in fact threatened to destroy all this.

And, lately, in No. 160, of December 13 last, I reported to you the destruction occasioned by the *Dicote*, and the heavy rains,

in which extremity I proceeded to put up a hut in front of the barracks and within the limits of the pasture field in order to save us, in case the bad weather continued, such was the danger. I am sure that with a little more the barracks and its surroundings would have disappeared, without any possible remedy, since the rivers here rise to a prodigious and extraordinary degree. By the plan herewith enclosed you will see how this place is surrounded by water and how inundations are certain with the floods. So that my former predictions are fulfilled from day to day. Therefore I would not do my duty if I did not insist upon this point: the peremptory necessity of moving and building the barracks and school, as the centre of a settlement, in a suitable place. Such a site can be wherever it is high ground, farther away or nearer, but it ought to be here near the native *pulenques*, that is to say, in *Sipurio*, the *Sipurio* of Mr. Lyon.

On the plan the lot is well indicated in red ink, and is shown in the directions on the margin: it measures ten hectares and belongs to Jaime Ross & Co. of *San José*. It is a fortunate circumstance that they are obliged by contract with the Department of the Treasury to sell this lot when it may be needed. With this understanding I respectfully beg that the Government will proceed as quickly as possible to acquire that land for the purpose indicated and that this *Jefatura Política* be authorized to at once undertake the execution of the idea I have stated.

For that purpose, Señor Governor, be pleased to send this letter and accompanying plan to the Minister of *Fomento*, with copies of the notes Nos. 39, 50 and 160 relating thereto.

I remain your attentive servitor.

A. MARIN J.

(Copy of plan attached).

### III.

Items which are referred to in the Budget of the 3rd inst., of the ROAD TO CAHUITA.

I gen. Overseer, 100 ds. at \$2.00.....	\$200.00
4 native id. id. 1.00.....	400.00
40 laborers id. 0.75.....	3,000.00
	<hr/> 3,600.00

25 lbs. black powder, at 2.00.....	50.00	
100 " <i>municion</i> .35.....	35.00	
1,000 tubes fulminate.....	5.00	
		90.00
200 lbs. salt.....	16.00	
100 lbs. sugar.....	30.00	
50 lbs. coffee.....	30.00	
20 tins biscuit.....	100.00	
Plantains and other foodstuffs.....	50.00	
		226.00
Wages of cooks.....		100.00
For unforeseen expenses.....		24.00
Total.....		\$4,090.00

Sipurio, January 12, 1897.

A. MARIN J.

No. 265.

Señor Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Fomento,  
San José.

LIMÓN, January 8, 1897.

With the Budget referred to, I enclose to the Minister the original note No. 165, of the 3rd of the present month, addressed by the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, relating to the cost of the road to the coast, of which that official treats.

I remain, Mr. Minister, with great consideration, your obedient servant,

BALVANERO VARGAS.

V.

No. 165.

To the Governor of *Limón*.

SIPURIO, January 3, 1897.

With the desire of taking advantage of the good weather that is coming and to progress as fast as possible with the work on the road to the coast, I expect to begin work again on Monday,



the 18th instant. For that purpose I am organizing permanent gangs of selected Indians.

As to the necessary funds, I will advance them from my own purse as a loan; meantime I beg that you will advise the Government of it for its official information.

Separately I send you herewith the approximate estimate of the cost.

I am your obedient servant.

A. MARÍN J.

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APPROXIMATE ESTIMATE OF THE ROAD TO THE COAST.

No.	Sections.	Kil.	Cost for each Kil.	days.	Cost of Section.
1.	<i>Sipurio-Bucombri</i> ..	3	\$50	132	\$150
2.	<i>Bucombri-Suretká</i> ..	2	20	44	40
3.	<i>Suretká-Seububetka</i>	5	40	187	200
4.	<i>Seububetka-Sarabri</i>	1	200	187	200
5.	<i>Sarabri-Carbón</i> ....	12	150	1,650	1,800
6.	<i>Carbón-Sibube</i> ....	3	100	275	300
7.	<i>Sibube-Hone Krik</i> ..	6	100	550	600
8.	<i>Hone Krik-Blofe</i> ..	8	100	726	800
Total.....		40	\$750	3,751	\$4,090

Already expended ..... \$1,664.55

Total cost of the road, \$5,754.55, or an average per Kil. of \$143.87.

Note: In the amount for the days are included the supplies and provisions, as well as superintendence.

Sipurio, January 3, 1897.

A. MARIN J.

VI.

No. 172.

To the Governor of the District of *Limón*.

SIPURIO, January 12, 1897.

I do not know what the Government thinks of doing in *Talamanca*, although I suppose that now it is endeavoring only to preserve in that region the national sovereignty and to maintain

the principle of authority, by means of the *Jefe Político* and *Comandante* and other civil and police officials, at the same time to go on preparing the way where at some time may be felt the breath of civilization.

However that may be, the conduct of the government for the past eleven years is praiseworthy; although it is undeniable and clear from every point of view that this conduct, passively conservative, checks the sources of a sure and needed progress among the natives and enervates the spirit of those who for one reason or another have had their attention called to one of the most promising regions of *Costa Rica*.

In the personnel of the last three administrations the idea has certainly been well received of undertaking seriously permanent works of utility and improvement and starting the movement for a different life from that which has always existed. Such purposes were harbored by the conquerors and governors during the past three centuries; but it is certain that down to the present very little result has been obtained by all these efforts, since it is only within a few years that this section has succeeded in the pacification of the natives and not forgetting their tendency to seek from foreigners means of redemption.

Nevertheless, I am inclined to believe that now is the time to seriously consider and conscientiously how to provide *Talamanca* with more active and efficient means for taking up this new life. For the Indians live now just as their ancestors lived before the discovery, neither better nor worse, and they will go on living thus indefinitely, unless by some opportune help the foundations are laid for the future progress of the race, to which it has a right, as the mother in part of our own and as a member of the Costarican family.

A *Jefe Político* with almost absolute authority; some subordinate assistants; a Catholic priest without influence or parishioners; some way of communication with the coast, and a future in perspective the door of which is hardly ajar; are not, naturally, the best factors of progress, especially when they are the means and only the rudimentary means for beginning the regenerative campaign, the revolution which humanity, our own interest and charity demands. It is almost a useless pretense to say we are masters here. There is no doubt that the Indians, as national

wealth, are a relative element, for their labor produces something and they consume something for their necessities; from which it may be deduced that their preservation and multiplication is desirable. But a personal wealth that borders so closely on misery,—the untilled wastes of the desert roundabout an oasis,—is a wealth of little value and not to be coveted. The preservation of ruinous remains of an ancient building, without archaeological merits for study nor materials for practical use, is a preservation that is costly, uneconomic and useless. Better would it be to abandon these remains to the effects of time and their disappearance at last would be the natural consequence.

Is this what is desired for the almost extinct race of the *Viceitas* and *Cabécaras*? Surely not: and the proof of it is that the Government, at least, has custodians for these ruins and guardians for these fields. However, I may be permitted to repeat what I have already said: that it must be admitted that here live in a vagabond and savage life the brothers of many progenitors of the peoples among we were born and we live. Perhaps there may be found in *Bribri* the lineage of some of our forefathers. \* \* \*

If the experience is worth anything of one who like myself has spent over two years in *Talamanca*, governing that region, studying its history and traditions, its customs and the language of the Indians; if my services in that region are of any merit, sacrificing my life and that of my dear wife who accompanies me and the comforts of life in the capital,—not for the value of the salary which is used up in personal needs, but to be useful to my country; if the counsel of one who is glad to do this, shall be esteemed of value in this matter, and if for a reward it would be possible for me to look for a word of thanks;—I would take the liberty of asking that I may be allowed to proceed in the manner hereinafter set out.

I have considered my plans a long time, and many doubts have assailed me in getting it into shape. Some of the opinions that have been given me by men of experience and good judgment. have been contrary, and I have very naturally been sorry that some high public officials have differed with me in principle. But notwithstanding this cumulation of circumstances and the difficulties I have encountered in carrying out my idea, my in-

tuition tells me that perseverance will conquer everything, if a goodwill lends its efficient support. Measures will be found, materials will not be lacking, knowing how to look for them. Success will crown the efforts now, so that posterity will reap the results.

Without civilization there can be no progress, and progress is the beginning of public wealth and wellbeing. The car of civilization is the instruction of the masses; and the rails are roads and immigration.

"Schools and roads," said to me recently Licentiate Fuentes, "schools and roads are the two great ways which help humanity to make true progress." But the school in these distant regions, I say, without the constant example of civilized beings in daily communication with the natives, without the practical teaching of our customs to men and women, to old and young, and without the community of interest to animate them, both in a moral and material way,—such a school, I say, will not produce all the good effects desired."

There is needed, then, to establish in *Talamanca*, an agricultural colony, composed of very honest and industrious families, with all, absolutely all the necessary elements to guarantee their health, security, prosperity and comfort. It will be necessary to establish schools of both sexes, and a boarding school, it is understood, free. It is necessary, summing it all up, to pronounce the magical words: "Rise up, Lazarus," to open the sources of hidden wealth and the doors of an upbuilding civilization.

Thus and thus only shall we be able to hope that *Talamanca* may shine within a few decades as one of the most prosperous and progressive provincial entities.

There will be means enough; we have the lever and the arm the point of support is the Government: may it be pleased to consider my plans, so granting me the favor that I consider is due to me.

Be pleased to forward the present letter to the Minister of Fomento, and accept the distinguished consideration of your obedient servant.

A. MARÍN J.

## VII.

No. 271.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government.  
San José.

LIMÓN, January 24, 1897.

The *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, in a note of the 12th instant, received yesterday, enclosed to me the annexed estimate, which he desired be sent to the office under your charge.

I also received from the same official the statement, the original of which accompanies this.

I hope to be able to send to you during the coming week the report which you ask for from me concerning the works which the said *Jefe Político* has undertaken on the road to *Cahuíta* and the approximate value of them.

Although I appreciate every day still more the urgent need of sending the report mentioned, I have not been able to do so for lack of transportation to go and examine the said road beforehand, since as the Minister knows both the "Braulio Carrillo" as well as the sloop of the Government are out of commission. The latter will be already repaired by Monday or Tuesday next, as I am told by the Administrator of the Custom House, in whose hands it was placed.

I will immediately take advantage of it.

With the greatest consideration I subscribe myself of the Secretary of State the most attentive and obedient servant,

BALVANERO VARGAS.

## VIII.

No. 278.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government and Fomento.  
San José.

LIMÓN, March 8, 1897.

Original. I have the honor to enclose to the Minister the detailed inventory of everything there is in *Talamanca* belonging to the Government, prepared by the commission which I sent to that place for that purpose.

In sending this commission, I desired also to take advantage of the opportunity to obtain information, not only as to the number of miles that may have been made of new road, but also as to the approximate cost of each mile.

The commission at the end of the inventory states what was desired should be known on this point.

What is now needed is that the Supreme Government may be pleased to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the *Jefe Político* Marin, it being hoped that this may be done as soon as possible, as it is required by the public interests of that Colony. It would also be desirable that the person who may be appointed shall be one of good judgment, devoted to his duties and enthusiastic in agriculture. Conditions of this nature are indispensable in order to serve the *Jefatura Político* of *Talamanca*. It is desirable that we may profit of the opportunity now we have not only in this way but also by positively prohibiting the official from engaging in commercial matters.

With the greatest consideration I subscribe myself, of the Secretary of State, the obedient servant,

BALVANERO VARGAS.

## IX.

### TALAMANCA. *Inventory: Property of the Government.*

#### 1. OFFICE.

- 1 Copying press.
- 1 Collection, from 1831-1895, 52 books.
- 1 Copy book of communications, 1894.
- 1 Book of Minutes, begun.
- 1 id id not begun.
- 1 Book of communications, begun, 1895-1896.
- 1 id id not begun.
- 2 Books, Penal Code, 1880.
- 16 Books, Reports of the Ministers.
- 1 Book, Civil Code, 1887.
- 1 id id of Procedure, 1887.
- 5 Books, annals of the Geographical Institute.
- 1 Book, Treatise on Medicine. Dorvault.
- 2 Books, Military Code, 1871.

- 1 Book, Police regulations, 1891.
- 1 Book, General code, 1841.
- 2 Books, Police regulations. 1883, 1891.
- 1 Book, Report exploration of *Talamanca*. Gabb.
- 1 Book. "Christian Civil Society."
- 8 Books, certificates of Civil registry.
- 1 Postal form book, begun.
- 1 id id not begun.
- 37 School bulletins.
- 2 Books, copies communications 1892-3.
- 9 Memorandum books of notes sent.
- 1 Book, copies of notes, 1886.
- 1 id service lists.
- 1 Book, subsidiary work, 1885.
- 1 Book, general revenues, 1884.
- 1 Seal: *Jefatura Política y Commandancia de Talamanca*.
- 1 Ream, note paper.
- 60 packets, paper for communications.
- 1 Large packet, official paper.
- 24 Packets service lists.
- 5 Covers for communications.
- 54 Letter envelopes.
- 1 Stamp.
- 2 Bundles of stationery.
- 3 Rulers.
- 1 Pen box.
- 2 Inkstands.
- 2 Paperweights.
- 5 Penholders.
- 1 Sealing wax.
- 1 Blotter.
- 1 Box for penholders.
- 2 Bots. Copying ink.
- 1 Bot. red ink.
- 1 Pastepot.
- 1 Almanac, day-book.
- 2 Thermometers.
- 1 Compass, poor.
- 1 Blotter.

## SCHOOL ARTICLES.

- 11 Books, 1st Reader, American.
  - 9 id 2nd id id
  - 3 id 1st. Mantilla.
  - 12 Arithmetics. Gillet. Damitte.
  - 2 id and Geometry. Vintejou.
  - 2 Grammars: Practical. C. Guzmán.
  - 6 id elementary. Brenes.
  - 3 Writing books: Spencer.
  - 3 id new method.
  - 4 Catechisms.
  - 1 Elementary Geography. M. Obregón.
  - 1 Sacred History, small.
  - 25 Drawing books: "*Cours de dessin*."
  - 50 Slates.
  - 50 Penholders.
  - 1 Geography, Lemonnier.
  - 2 Terrestrial globes.
  - 3 Ordinary desks.
- All these articles in bad condition.

## 2. MEDICINES.

- 1 Small scales for medicines.
- 1 Large id id
- $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. Calomel.
- 1 Pkg. Borax.
- 1 id Benzoic acid.
- 2 id Carbonate of potash.
- 1 id Sal ammoniac.
- 1 id Santonine, in powder.
- 2 id Salicylate of soda.
- 1 id Iodide of potash.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Powdered aloes.
- 1 id Sub. bismuth.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Muriatic acid.
- $\frac{3}{4}$  id Antifebrine.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Iron, pulv.
- 2 lbs. Alum.
- $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. Tannic acid.



- 1 id Iodoform.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Chloroform.
- $1\frac{1}{2}$  Bot. Tinct. Valerian.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id id Digitalis.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id id Cantharides.
- 1 id id Belladonna.
- 1 id id Catechu.
- $\frac{1}{4}$  id id Arnica.
- $\frac{1}{4}$  id id Gallic acid.
- 1 id Nitric acid.
- 4 Vials Ext. Taraxacum.
- 4 id Spts. Minderero.
- $\frac{3}{4}$  id Rena.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Euforbina.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  Bot. Carbolic acid.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Sweet spts. Nitre.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Tinct. Ergot.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id id Aconite.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Liq. Ammonia.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Tinct. Gelsemium.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id id Quinine.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Spts. Nitrous Ether.
- 1 Small flask Vermifuge.
- 1 Flask Conium seed.
- 1 lb. Sulphur.
- 1 Bot. Prepared chalk.
- 2 Flasks Phosphate calcium.
- 2 id Carb. Soda.
- 1 lb. Calomel.
- 1 id Carb. Soda.
- $1\frac{1}{2}$  id Magnesia.
- $\frac{1}{4}$  Sm. Flask Naphthaline.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Tartaric Acid.
- 1 id Chlorate Potash.
- 1 filter Pasteur system.
- 52 grains Tartar emetic.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  Flask Rhubarb, pulv.
- $1\frac{1}{2}$  id Glauber's salts.
- $1\frac{1}{2}$  id Acetate lead.

- 1 id Sulphate zinc.
- 4 Oz. Sulph. Acid, arom.
- 2 Flasks Citric acid.
- 1 id Sugar of Lead.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  Oz. Copper Sulph.
- 1 Glass funnel.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  Oz. Quinine Sulph.
- $\frac{1}{4}$  Bot. Syrup of Squills.
- 1 Sm. Flask Hartrate Antimony.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Iron persulph.
- 1 id Bromide Potash.
- 1 Oz. Dover's Powders.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  Small bot. Curarine.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Tinct. Iodine.
- 1 Oz. Permanganate of iron.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  Flask Corrosive sublimate.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Atropine Sulphate.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Jalap.
- $\frac{3}{4}$  Flask Dialyzed iron.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Cocaine.
- $\frac{1}{3}$  id Perchlorate of iron.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  id Antipyrine solution.
- 1 Flask Codliver oil.
- 1 id Depurative elixir.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  Bot. Golden Seal.
- 1 id Iron superphosphate.
- 2 id Bromide Potash
- 2 id Solution Salicylate of soda.
- 1 Glass jar.
- 1 Bot. Sedative water.
- 2 Syringes, large for injections.
- 1 lb. Gum arabic.
- $1\frac{1}{2}$  id Ipecacuanha in powder.
- 4 Small flasks Laudanum.
- $1\frac{1}{2}$  id Tinct. Castorei.
- 1 Small flask Ipecacuanha wine.
- 1 id Chloral hydrate.
- 1 lb. Asafetida.
- 2 Graduates, to measure medicines, 4 oz.

- 1 id id 2 oz.  
 1 lb. Eucalyptus.  
 2 Boxes Porous and caustic plasters.  
 3/4 Flask Yellow ointment.  
 2 1/2 id Zinc id  
 1 Small box Red precipitate.  
 4 oz. Cantharides plaster.  
 2 id Blue mass.  
 1 Mortar for compounding medicines.  
 10 Syringes for injections, small, glass.  
 1/2 Bot. Tinct. Belladonna.  
 1 id Machine oil.  
 1 1/2 id Tinct. Iron.  
 1 1/2 id Ammonia Water.  
 1/2 id Tinct. Gelsemium.  
 3 id Scott's Emulsion.  
 1 Corkscrew.  
 2 Cans Olive oil.  
 1 1/2 id Castor oil.  
 1 1/2 id Almond oil.  
 3 1/2 Bot. Oil of Turpentine.  
 3 Bitter cups.  
 1 Pill-making machine.  
 31 Syringes, small, of leather.  
 3 packets medicinal drying paper.  
 1 lb. Cotton.  
 2 id Chamomile flowers.  
 2 id Borage.  
 — Plasters.  
 18 Pts. Copaiba pills.  
 — Small boxes for medicines.  
 1 oz. Vaseline.  
 7 lbs. English salt.
- 

### 3. FURNITURE.

- 1 Building, Barracks, with two kitchens.  
 1 id stable for the cattle.  
 1 Clock.

- 2 Writing tables.
  - 1 Commode.
  - 1 Wardrobe closet.
  - 8 Chairs.
  - 4 Scissors.
  - 2 Old beds.
  - 1 Iron bed.
  - 3 Lanterns.
  - 2 Lamps, in bad condition.
  - 1 Electrolier, in bad condition.
  - 1 Bell.
  - 4 Kettles.
  - 8 Buckets.
  - 1 Large cook stove.
  - 1 Portable stove in bad condition.
  - 1 picture, "Chicago Exposition."
- 

#### 4. HARDWARE (tools).

- 13 Picks.
- 11 Shovels.
- 1 Dryll.
- 1 Hoe.
- 2 Bars (Crow-bars).
- 8 *Mollejones* (grinders).
- 1 *Mollejón*, with wheel.
- 12 Axes, in good condition.
- 4 id bad id
- 14 Files.
- 1 Door fastening.
- 3 Carpenter's squares.
- 3 Carpenter's pencils.
- 1 Screwdriver.
- 1 Pincers, large. 1 small.
- 1 Monkey wrench.
- 3 Planes, Carpenter's.
- 9 id cabinet.
- 3 id Boxes, for.
- 2 Levels. 1

- 1 Plummet.
- 1 Soldering iron.
- 1 File.
- 2 Hammers.
- 13 Chisels, different sizes.
- 2 Branding irons, for cattle, G. V.
- 1 Iron chain.
- 1 Measuring tape of iron.
- 9 Carpenter's bits.
- 1 Compass.
- 1 Chain fastening.
- 8 Screws.
- 9 Hasps, small.
- 2 Carpenter's rules.
- 1 Small box with small tools.
- 2 Wooden mallets.
- 1 Shears for cutting metal.
- 1 Oiler.
- 2 pairs Pulleys for *mollejón*.
- 1 Press.
- 10 Machetes, good.
- 5 id poor.
- 1 Machine for stretching wire.
- 3 Saws.
- 3 id rip.
- 1 Metrical measuring tape.
- 52 Machetes, in good condition.
- 2 id in poor id
- 1 Grinder, with stone.
- 2 Trowels for cleaning irons.
- 2 Cans of Paint.
- 4 lbs. Putty.
- 12 sheets Sandpaper.
- 1 Saw.
- ¼ Can Paint-oil.
- ¼ Can Tar.
- 1 Iron maul.
- 1 Scales.
- 1 Balances, scales.

- 50 lbs. Staples.
  - 100 id Nails, different sizes.
- 

## MARINE ARTICLES.

- 1 Boat, ordinary size, not very good.
  - 1 id small, poor condition.
  - 1 Tarpaulin.
  - 4 Paddles.
  - 2 Caracoles.
  - 5 Tackles.
  - 2 Baskets.
  - 1 Tent, in bad condition.
- 

## 5. ARMAMENT.

- 1 Gun-carriage.
  - 6 Winchester rifles.
  - 2 Remington id
  - 165 Winchester cartridges.
  - 4 Revolvers, good.
  - 1 id poor.
  - 1 Sword.
  - 1 Bugle.
  - 2 Whistles.
  - 2 Policeman badges, Nos. 1 and 6.
  - 2 Bayonets.
  - 20 Revolver cartridges.
- 

## 6. AGRICULTURE.

- 1 Mill for grinding sugar cane.
- 4 Bundles Wire.
- 2 pairs Yoke Bands.
- 2 Hides.
- 25 Apple trees of enclosed pasture field.
- 2 id id for propagation.
- 1 Garden.

## 7. RIDING EQUIPMENT.

2	Riding outfit in good condition.	
2	id poor condition.	
2	Bridles.	
2	Blankets.	
3	Headstalls.	
2	Headstalls, good.	1 bad.
1	pair Spurs.	
33	Fathoms rope.	
2	Halters.	
2	Pack-saddles.	

## 8. CATTLE.

1	Cow, mottled, hocked.....	1
1	id black, wax-colored .....	2
1	id blossom-colored-white .....	3
1	id white .....	4
1	id mottled-white .....	5
1	id mottled, <i>achotilla-pailetas</i> .....	6
1	id mottled, mixed .....	7
1	id white, speckled .....	8
1	id reddish, dark .....	9
1	id blossom colored, dark, down-curved horns.....	10
1	id <i>achotilla-chinga</i> .....	11
1	id reddish-mottled .....	12
1	id black-mottled .....	13
1	id <i>achotilla</i> (yellowish-annoto) .....	14
1	id mottled .....	15
1	Heifer, mulberry-white .....	16
1	id mulberry, saffron .....	17
1	id <i>achotilla</i> (yellowish) blossom-colored.....	18
1	Calf, mottled .....	19
1	id blossom colored-dark .....	20
1	Calf, white .....	21
1	id mottled .....	22
1	Calf, reddish-dark .....	23
1	id blossom-colored-white .....	24

1	id	Saffron-speckled .....	25
1	id	reddish .....	26
1	id	black .....	27
1	id	dark-mottled .....	28
1	id	<i>achotilla</i> -white .....	29
1	id	mottled-black .....	30
1	id	black ( <i>Tucurrique</i> ) .....	31
1		Young Steer, yellow-speckled.....	32
1	id	saffron-speckled .....	33
1	id	light-bay .....	34
1	id	blossom-white .....	35
1	id	Moorish-white .....	36
1		Calf, white-speckled .....	37
1	id	Yellowish .....	38
1	id	Saffron .....	39
1	id	Mottled-white .....	40
1	id	black-speckled .....	41
1	id	light-bay .....	42
1	id	Dark-reddish .....	43
1	id	Blossom colored-dark .....	44
1	id	Mottled-white .....	45
1	id	Yellowish-blossom colored .....	46
1	id	Dove colored .....	47

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## 9. HORSES.

1		Mare, almost black.....	1
1	id	black .....	2
1		Mare, saffron .....	3
1	id	dark honey color.....	4
1		Young Mare, light-bay.....	5
1	id	almost black .....	6
1	id	almost black—white forehead .....	7
1	id	dark-honey color .....	8
1	id	dark-honey color .....	9
1	id	dark-honey color, white forehead.....	10
1		Horse, honey color, white.....	11
1	id	almost black .....	12
1	id	bay .....	13



1	id	saffron-white forehead, dark.....	14
1	id	saffron-light .....	15
1	Colt, black .....		16
1	id	<i>jabonado</i> .....	17
1	id	honey color-dark-white forehead.....	18
1	Young colt, almost black (2 months old, mother dead) .		19
1	Mule (male) id	dark-bay .....	20
1	id	id black .....	21

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## ROAD.

The calculation, more or less approximate, which we have made regarding the piece of new road which is already made, is of about ten miles in length. With bridges made of sills at the most necessary crossings. From *Sipurio* to *Suretka* the road is macadamized. In the whole course there have been cut down, sawn up and taken out of the road the trees that were most in the way for the moment. The approximate value of each mile we estimate according to circumstances and work in *Talamanca*, at \$170, including besides all the expenses for provisions, transportation, tools, etc.

*Sipurio*, February 27, 1897.

W. GABB.

Ricard William, Witness,—Vicente Molina, Witness,—Raimundo Monroy.

## X.

No. 192.

To the Secretary of State  
in the Department of Government.  
San José.

LIMÓN, December 3, 1897.

I beg that the Minister will be pleased to obtain from the Department of the Treasury, the proper order so that the Administrator of this Custom House may let me have the sloop of the Government, in order to bring the principal electors and substitutes of *Talamanca*, who have to be here on the eve of the 12th

instant, to deposit their vote for President of the Republic and Deputies Freeholders and Substitutes for the Constitutional Congress.

I desire that the said order be sent by telegraph, as I wish the sloop to leave this Port on the 8th day of this December, at the latest. I am so arranged with the *Jefe Politico* of that place, to provide against any delay that might happen by the rising of the rivers.

With the greatest consideration I subscribe myself, Mr. Secretary of State, your obedient servant,

BALVANERO VARGAS.

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# XI.

No. 233.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government:  
San José.

LIMÓN, March 23, 1898.

The *Jefe Politico* of *Talamanca*, Don Valentín Urbina, requests the Minister for permission to leave his position for a month by reason of being seriously ill. I enclose the certificate which Señor Urbina presents from the physician of the village.

With the greatest consideration I subscribe myself of the Secretary of State the very obedient servant,

BALVANERO VARGAS.

The undersigned professor of Medicine certifies:

That Don Valentín Urbina is seriously ill, suffering from chronic malarial symptoms, requiring his residence in a cold country for three months.

Limón, March 21, 1898.

DR. LUIS ROS POCHE.

## XII.

No. 44.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government  
San José.

LIMÓN, July 25, 1898.

I forward to the Minister the Note No. 54, of the 2nd instant, sent to this office by the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*. It says:

"Señor Governor of the district of *Limón*.

*Sipurio*, July 2, 1898.

"Enclosed you will find a tariff of local imposts of this District, so that if you deem it desirable you may bring it to the knowledge of the Supreme Government for its approval.

"I will call attention to the \$30 for license privileges which are issued outside of this locality, which is intentional so that no one shall ask for it, as there would not be sufficient vigilance by the authorities of those settlements and also because I believe the abuses are avoided which might be committed. The license for Rum in *Old Harbour*, for the turtle fishery and shell ought to be granted, for the maritime work requires it and because the sales can be watched over, by the Police Agent: it is \$20, because those who happen to come from your city ask for one bottle \$2, \$2.50 and \$3.

"Tobacco, the same as liquor, gives to the merchant too high a profit and therefore I thought it proper that they pay \$10 per year, since they charge \$2.40 for one pound, and even more. The other imposts are carefully determined and do not in any way affect private interests, while the Supreme Government favors the immigrants who come here, to exploit our mountains.

"I have the honor to again present my respects.

"V. URBINA."

The tariff states as follows:

"Tariff of Municipal Imposts of the Canton of *Talamanca*, submitted by the undersigned for the approval of the Supreme Government.

"For license for merchandising at retail, in *Sipurio*, per quarter, \$10.

"License for merchandising outside of that place, in the settlements (scattered houses), \$30.

"License for foreign liquors.....	\$18.00
" id for Rum, <i>Old Harbour</i> .....	20.00
" id for Tobacco, per annum.....	10.00
" id for each log that is cut on the mountains to make a boat.....	5.00
" id for register of dogs.....	5.00
"For each quintal (100 lbs.) of rubber gathered by laborers in the mountains.....	5.00
"For each quintal of sarsaparilla.....	3.00
"Sipurio, July 2, 1898.	

"V. URBINA."

With distinguished consideration I subscribe myself your very obedient servant,

EDUARDO BÉECHE.

### XIII.

No. 124.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government.  
San José.

LIMÓN, October 14, 1898.

I have the honor to inform you that on the 11th of the present month I went to *Cahuita* in order to install in charge of it the new *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, Don Tranquilino Badilla B.

In that place I found there was no house in which the office of *Jefatura* could be installed and only after many difficulties I secured one at a rental of twenty pesos monthly and with the express condition that it was only for one month.

Consequently, there is a peremptory need for constructing a local building to serve as an office, the cost of which will hardly amount to five hundred pesos. If the Supreme Government is disposed to authorize me to execute this work for account of the Public Treasury, I will proceed without delay to begin the work, not forgetting to inform you that this authority takes

pleasure in placing at the disposition of the Government some timber and a quantity of galvanized iron that came from a bridge which was dismantled in this city.

On Sunday next, the 16th, I expect to set out for *Talamanca* upon a trip of inspection, with a view of getting acquainted with those localities and taking full notes of the national property existing in *Sipurio*, in cattle, buildings, arms, tools, etc.,—and to ascertain as far as possible the needs of that locality, to which the care and attention of the authorities is due.

Aside from that I desire to see what administrative measures are desirable there and what success might be expected, so as to submit them to the consideration of the Supreme Government.

As usual, during my absence, which will be some five days, I will put my Secretary in charge of the Government; and as there is not time for an answer by letter, I beg the Minister will be pleased to give me his approval by telegraph.

With distinguished consideration I subscribe myself your obedient servant,

EDUARDO BÉECHE.

#### XIV.

No. 503.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government,  
San José.

LIMÓN, December 9, 1898.

I have the honor to enclose herewith an account presented by Señor T. Badilla B., *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, for expenses incurred in his moving from *Old Harbour* to *Sipurio*, so that if you deem it proper you may order a draft issued to him, advising me of it so that it may be communicated to him.

I take the liberty of earnestly recommending the payment of this account, because this official besides getting a very small salary is giving his services in an isolated region where everything costs very dear.

With distinguished consideration, I subscribe myself, your obedient servant,

EDUARDO BÉECHE.

237 :

The Supreme Government, Dr.

For expenses incurred in the moving of the Commandant from *Old Harbour* to *Sipurio*, for boatmen and laborers in caring for the animals..... \$23.00

E. &amp; O. E.

*Sipurio*, November 30, 1898.

T. BADILLA B.

## XV.

No. 573.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government.  
San José.

LIMÓN, March 24, 1899.

I have the honor to bring to the knowledge of your office that this authority has granted leave of twenty days, on account of his health, to the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, Sr. D. Tranquilino Badilla, which leave began to count from yesterday.

During the absence of Señor Badilla, the *Jefatura Política* of *Talamanca* will be in charge of Señor Paulino Méndez, policeman of *Sipurio*.

I hope that your office will be pleased to give its approval to the act of this authority.

With distinguished consideration, I am your obedient servant,  
EDUARDO BÉECHE.

## XVI.

No. 575.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government,  
San José.

LIMÓN, April 4, 1899.

I have the honor to inform you that the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, D. Tranquilino Badilla, who is now absent on leave, asks for an extension without limit.

As I know that my authority does not extend so far as to grant to Señor Badilla what he has asked, I permit myself to address your Department in order that you may determine the matter.

With distinguished consideration, I am your obedient servant.

EDUARDO BÉCHE.

## XVII.

No. 50.

To the Governor of the district of *Limón*:

SIPURIO, May 2, 1899.

In Note No. 43, dated March 14th last, I gave an account to the late Governor that there were some Nicaraguan rubber gatherers picking up the rubber on this coast and not far from here; and today I have word that they are continuing to take it out on the Colombian side and that there is a company of several persons. As I have only one policeman and the Indians are cowards; they do not dare expose themselves, nor have I but two Winchester rifles, so that I can not undertake to pursue them, for in general the men who are engaged in collecting rubber along these coasts are persons of bad antecedents (I refer to the rubber gatherers), and it seems to me proper to advise the Supreme Government of this so that the number of my police may be increased, considering that I am, so to speak, in the division between *Colombia* and our territory, not in a city where there are various authorities obligated in case of need to land help, moreover I am among Indians that live scattered from one hut or *palenque* to another, the same as among unknown people, sufficient reasons why there should be here more police. During the past month when I was in *San José* I laid this before the Executive and the Minister of War, but as is natural I ought to address myself to your superior authority as my immediate chief, in order that through you my petition may receive attention.

I am, with the greatest respect, your obedient servant,

T. BADILLA.

## XVIII.

No. 22.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government.  
San José.

LIMÓN, June 28, 1899.

I have the honor to transmit to you herewith information as to how the \$273.90 arising from the sale of rubber seized in *Talamanca*, has been disposed of.

In examining the statement you will find some items that will appear to you strange, such as the value of a box of pens, 500 envelopes for letters, one rule, etc., these being office supplies that might be provided by this office, but actually I saw the need of buying them, for the reason that there was not a sufficient stock to take them from, (since the estimated of supplies I recently sent was delivered to me as reduced as usual), that now it happens I am so short that there was hardly enough for this office and I could not consequently give them to other subordinates.

Also, the Minister will observe two other items of \$15.50 and \$40, respectively. The first represents a little packing for the machinery of the steamboats "Chirripó," and "Nicoya," which fortunately was obtained on board the Steamer "Banana," and which I bought with money arising from the rubber to save expense to the Public Funds. The other \$40 is the value of the boat of which I spoke to you lately, which I also desired to obtain without burdening the National Treasury.

The remainder of the money, \$27.15, I send to you herewith, so that you may dispose of it as you may deem proper.

Permit me to request you to be good enough to inform me as to the remarks you may have to the account referred to, and I take advantage of this occasion to repeat to you that I am your very obedient servant

J M. SANDOVAL O.

• Invoice sent to *Talamanca*.

June 12.	½ doz. Grease.....	\$4.75
	2 copper tacks.....	3.00



2 gals. red paint.....	12.00
1 box Pens.....	1.50
500 Letter envelopes.....	4.00
1 Rule .....	1.00
2 Lamps .....	7.50
1 can Kerosene.....	4.75
½ doz. carbolic acid.....	15.00
1 riding outfit.....	34.00
	<hr/> \$87.50

*Statement for Old Harbour.*

June 12.	100 lbs. Nails.....	\$18.00
	200 feet Lumber.....	22.00
	2 <i>Machetes</i> .....	8.00
	2 Axeheads .....	1.50
	1 Hatchet .....	2.50
	1 lb. Copper tacks.....	1.50
	1 gal. Paint.....	6.00
	2 Lamps .....	7.50
	1 can Kerosene.....	4.75
		<hr/> \$71.75

Value of Packing, for use on the "Chirripò," and "Nicoya" .....	\$15.50
Paid to the <i>Jefe Politico</i> of <i>Talamanca</i> for some repairs in the house.....	26.00
Value of the Boat.....	40.00
Transportation of the Rubber.....	6.00
Sum sent to the Ministry.....	27.15
	<hr/>
Total disbursements .....	\$273.90
Value of the Rubber.....	273.90
	<hr/>

J. M. SANDOVAL O.

## XIX.

No. 81.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government,  
San José.

LIMÓN, October 9, 1899.

I acknowledge the receipt of your note No. 317, dated the 6th of the present month, referring to the leave granted to Don Tranquillino Badilla B., *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, for absence from his post for two months and appointing in his place for that time Don Luis Mejía.

I am your very obedient servant,

J. M. SANDOVAL O.

## XX.

No. 92.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government,  
San José.

LIMÓN, November 9, 1899.

Herewith I have the honor to send to you a list of the articles which the *Jefe Político*, don Vicente Rodríguez, asks to take to *Talamanca*.

That gentleman has told me that he has instructions from your superior authority to kill cattle from among those that the Government has there and to distribute the meat among the aborigenes, as these latter are dying with hunger.

This information has surprised me very much, since in *Talamanca* there are commercial establishments and the Indians have money which they expend in maintaining themselves and even in drink, for which reason it was that some time ago the sale of liquor was prohibited.

With regard to a famine, no official, nor unofficial information has been received by this office from the authorities at *Sipurio*, in reference to it.

I am your very obedient servant,

J. M. SANDOVAL O.

Articles asked for by Don Vicente Rodríguez, *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, to take to that place:

Rice .....	lbs.	100
Lard .....	"	50
Codfish .....	"	50
Potatoes .....	"	100
Candles .....	"	25
Matches .....	Gross	1
Salt .....	Sack	1
Soap .....	Box	1/2
Coffee .....	lbs.	50
Beans .....	"	64
Alcohol .....	Litres	18
Sausages .....	lbs.	10
Garlic .....	"	5
Onions .....	"	15
Peppers and cumin.....	"	2
American biscuit (not sweet).....	"	50
Salmon .....	Cans	12
Sardines, stuffed .....	"	24
Bacon .....	lbs.	10
Pickles .....	Bottles	4
English sauce .....	"	2
Sugar .....	lbs.	100
Plates .....		6
Spoons, large .....		6
id small .....		6
Knives, with fork.....		6
Frying pans .....		2
Kettles .....		2
Buckets .....		2
Ladle .....		1
Sweet Oil .....	Litres	1
Kerosene .....	Can	1
Tobacco, <i>iztepeque</i> .....	lbs.	2
Cigarette Paper .....		\$1
Vinegar .....	Bottles	2
Spools of thread.....		2
Thimble .....		1

Needles .....	1
Buttons .....	—
Stew pans .....	1

LIMÓN, November 9, 1899.

J. M. SANDOVAL O.

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## XXI.

No. 64.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government.  
San José.

October 6, 1900.

Ready for their collection I have received the drafts of the employees of this Government, Nos. 1411 to 1420, except that of the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, No. 1419, which was received by the party recommended to.

Also there have been received those of the Police, Nos. 0114 to 0122, all to cover salaries due for the month of September last.

Your very obedient servant,

For the Governor:

JOSÉ S. SOTO, Sec.

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## XXII.

No. 82.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government,  
San José.

LIMÓN, July 14, 1900.

Permit me to advise your Department that by the direction of the Director General of Posts, the contractor in charge of carrying the mails to *Talamanca* stops only in *Old Harbour*, instead of also making a call in *Cahuita*, where there is a Police Station, and consequently continuous communication is needed with this Office.

I beg you to give order so to arrange that the sloop goes to *Cahuita* to leave the mail, by which the public service will be better attended to.

Your very obedient servant,

J. M. SANDOVAL O.

## XXIII.

No. 41.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government.  
San José.

LIMÓN, June 7, 1900.

For your information I have the honor to forward to you an inquest held by the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* upon the complaint of the mail-carrier Bolvin Smith, against Antonio Saldaña, the latter and Sandalio Garay, a criminal fugitive from justice for two homicides, having fired at him with a shot-gun while he was going up the river *Siraola* with the mail.

As appears in the declaration of the mail-carrier, the persons before mentioned, with some Indians he did not know, conducting some smuggled goods from *Colombia*, fearing that Smith would inform on them, sought to get rid of him.

Besides this, the *Jefe Político* advises me, in a note of May 30 last, that Antonio Saldaña, a *Cacique* of *Talamanca*, with twenty or thirty Indians, attacked with arms the only police officer, Alfredo Rodríguez; and that the latter was able to defend himself against the assault, thanks to the assistance of Bolvin Smith and Francisco Hernández, the latter having prevented Saldaña from shooting the officer mentioned.

As an immediate measure for the peace of that locality, I have ordered Saldaña to be brought in, who is a pernicious individual in *Talamanca* on account of his vices and depraved habits, constantly intoxicated, covetous, ignorant and perverse to the last degree, he develops his bad instincts with the efficient aid of suggestions from Guillermo Gabb, another bad Indian, who is educated and very intelligent, fond of power and who uses the prestige that Saldaña has among the Indians to carry out his personal purposes, keeping meantime in the background, since the latter always appears as the principal factor in the exploits and misdeeds growing out of his insidious counsels.

Both of them are a hindrance to the good administration of affairs in *Talamanca*; the one instigated by the other incites the natives, making them believe they are independent of the au-

thority the Government has established there and therefore are under no obligation to respect it; that only he (Saldaña) has the right to do and undo at his own will in those regions.

Saldaña knows well that Sandalio Garay is an evil doer, twice committing homicide, for on one occasion he treacherously killed a poor Indian in the mountains and afterwards he beat a poor woman to death with a stick; but he nevertheless protects him and hides him from the efforts of the police.

The stipend that is given to Saldaña is a real loss, as you see, and far from stimulating him to act properly and help us, leads him to think that he is important and very necessary and with the privilege of being free and committing even crimes.

I beg that you will give consideration to what I tell you as to this and give me, if you please, full instructions how to proceed in this case, in which the authority of *Talamanca* is really compromised, without help of any kind, as confirmed in new notes that came by special post.

Today I informed him of the agreement of the Government, increasing with two officers the police of *Sipurio*, in the place of the Agent of Police at *Old Harbour*, which was suppressed.

I am your very obedient servant,

J. M. SANDOVAL O.

## XXIV.

### Memorandum.

Government of Limón. Costa Rica.

LIMÓN, March 9, 1900.

Señor Chief Clerk of the Ministry of the Government,  
San José.

I have the honor to forward to you a draft for 43.55 pesos, in favor of Don Luis Mejía B., for payment of his services during ten days in January last, in the capacity of *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*.

I am your very obedient servant,

José S. Soto.

## XXV.

No. 10.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government,  
San José.

LIMÓN, March 14, 1900.

I acknowledge the receipt of your kind note, No. 578, of the 10th instant, together with draft No. 1755, in favor of Don Luis Mejía B., for ten days' services as *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* in December of the past year.

I am your very obedient servant,

J. SANDOVAL O.

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XXVI.

No. 122.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government,  
San José.

January 29, 1900.

With the corresponding report I return to you the memorial in which Sr. Luis Mejía B., asks pay for some days of service as *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*.

I beg that you will tell me if I may draw the respective draft.

I am your obedient servant,

J. M. SANDOVAL O.

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XXVII.

No. 79.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government,  
San José.

November 6, 1900.

Excluding the draft No. 142, belonging to the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, I have received already stamped the remaining Nos. 1421, 1422, 1423, 1424, 1425 and 1427, corresponding to the salaries of the employees of this Government; and I have also re-

ceived the Nos. 0126 to 0139 to cover salaries of police, all for the month of October last.

I am your obedient servant,

For the Governor:

The Secretary, JOSÉ S. SORO.

## XXVIII.

No. 109.

Señor Official Mayor (Chief Clerk)

of the Ministry of Government and Police:

San José.

February 5, 1901.

I acknowledge the receipt of *two postal* drafts, one for \$675.00, to cover salaries of the Government, except the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*; and another for \$254.22 in favor of the Treasurer of the Hospital for railway fares.

Your very obedient servant,

For the Governor:

The Secretary, JOSÉ S. SORO.

## XXIX.

No. 139.

To the Secretary of State,

in the Department of Government.

San José.

August 22, 1901.

For your kind determination, I beg to forward to you a note of Don Vicente Rodríguez, *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, in which he asks for leave from his post for three months on account of illness.

Your obedient servant,

J. M. SANDOVAL O.

To the Governor of the District of *Limón*:

*Jefatura Político* of *Talamanca*, August 15, 1901.

I presented to the Under Secretary of the Government two certificates, one given by Doctor Don Carlos Durán and the other



trouble I am suffering from which I only had relief while under by Doctor Don Emilio Echeverría, showing the serious stomach medical treatment, but I am getting worse and need a longer treatment, as the Doctors state in the certificates presented, so that I beg you will be pleased to grant me leave from my post as *Jefe Político* of this colony for three months, which I think will be sufficient to restore my health.

Assured that you will attend to my petition I am glad to remain with distinguished consideration your most obedient servant,

VICENTE RODRÍGUEZ.

Received by ordinary post, August 19, inst.

SOTO, Sec.

Government of District of Limón: 8 a. m., August 20, 1901.

Forwarded to the Minister of the Government for his action.

The Governor.

J. M. SANDOVAL O.,  
JOSÉ S. SOTO, Sec.

XXX.

No. 140.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government.  
San José.

LIMÓN, August 24, 1901.

I have the honor to reply to your despatch of yesterday, No. 287.

At the end of the month of December of the past year leave was given to the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* to go to *San José* for medical treatment: he continued quite ill and some days before you left to Salvador he wrote to me that he had applied to the Department and that you had granted him three months leave.

In April of this year the period that you granted him expired and he came to go back to his post and nearly died; for which reason he returned to the Capital and then notified me that through Licentiate Don Cleto González Víquez he had obtained from you an extension of his leave for another three months.

I had no doubt of the statement of Don Vicente Rodríguez and therefore did not hesitate to issue to him his drafts without any comments.

Recently I called his attention whether he was going to occupy his position and in reply he sent to me the writing that I had the honor of bringing to your knowledge.

During the absence of Señor Rodríguez the office of *Jefatura* has been in charge of the police officer of that place, Pedro Barahona, who has collected and branded the cattle of the Government that were scattered in the mountains, cleaned up and fenced the pasture field, made a new plaintain grove and planted a good piece in sugar cane.

Your very obedient servant,

J. M. SANDOVAL O.

XXXI.

No. 162.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government.  
San José.

LIMÓN, December 7, 1901.

Permit me to remind you as to the appointment of Señor Pedro Barahona, for the position of Principal Police Agent of *Talamanca*, as we agreed the last time that I was in your place, and with a salary of \$60.

Your obedient servant,

J. M. SANDOVAL O.

XXXII.

No. 165.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government.  
San José.

LIMÓN, December 27, 1901.

I have the honor to forward to you a copy of the election returns of the first grade for the District of *Talamanca*, which was sent to me by the Superior Electoral Board of this District.

Your obedient servant,

For the Governor,

JOSÉ S. SORO, Sec.

## XXXIII.

No. 127.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government.  
San José.

LIMÓN, December 4, 1902.

Herewith I have the honor to forward to you two bills presented by Señor Carlos Mora, Police Agent of *Talamanca*: one for C.32.80 and the other for C.5.35, cost of various articles for the cattle that the Government has in that locality, in order that if you approve the payment thereof may be ordered.

With the greatest consideration, I am your obedient servant,

W. DE LA GUARDIA.

## TELEGRAM:

Handed in at Limón on ..... 4th, 1903, at 2.15 p. m.

Received at Cartago, 9-4, 1903, at 2.15 p. m.

To the Minister of Police:

Señor Carlos A. Schow, pharmacist, about whom Dr. Steggall spoke for vaccinator in *Talamanca*, says that he will go for *colonos* 12 daily, his personal expenses at his own charge. I beg you may be pleased to tell me if I may accept and send him at the receipt of the vaccine.

The Secretary. FED. GÓLCHER.

Telegrapher: GONZÁLEZ.

TELEGRAM: handed in at Limón, 4- 1903, 8.30 A. M.

Received in San José, 8-4, 1903, 8.30 a. m.

To the Minister of Police:

Dr. García goes to *Talamanca* for *colonos* 500 (five hundred) monthly. He is now in *Cartago*.

The Secretary. F. GÓLCHER.

Telegrapher. CASTRO.

TELEGRAM: handed in at Limón, April 7, 1903. 5.30 p. m.

Received in San José, April 7, 1903, 6.05 p. m.

To Governor of *Limón*.

Dr. Steggal did not permit servant of Belisari to leave quarantine. By instruction from Minister I expect reply from Dr. García if he goes to *Talamanca* to vaccinate.

The Secretary: F. GÓLCHER.

Telegrapher: GONZÁLEZ.

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### XXXV.

TELEGRAM: Handed in at Limón, April 16, 1903, 10.35 a. m.  
Received at San José, April 16, 1903, 10.40 a. m.

To Minister, Government.

The vaccine arrived late yesterday and today at five in the morning the "Cariari" left for *Talamanca* carrying the vaccinator. Also I have ordered the vaccination continued here immediately.

W. DE LA GUARDIA.

Telegrapher: J. M. ZELEDÓN.

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### XXXVI.

TELEGRAM: Handed in at Limón, April 12, 1903, 9.40 a. m.  
Received in Cartago, April 12, 1903, 9.40 a. m.

To Minister of Police:

Cariari just returned. Inspector remains fulfilling his duty. According to reports from *Cahuitta* on 8th there were three cases of small-pox in *Sixola*. No news in our ports.

The Secretary: F. GÓLCHER.

Telegrapher: ATANASIO COTO.

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### XXXVII.

TELEGRAM: Handed in at Limón, April 6, 1903, 9.20 p. m.  
Received San José, April 6, 1903, 9.30 p. m.

To Minister of Police.

Steamer "Cariari" is ready to depart in the morning for trip of inspection for the Coast and places where since yesterday the health quarantine was established. As the arrangement published in the Gazette of yesterday directs a physician be sent to

*Talamanca*, permit me to ask you if it is necessary the Steamer await the arrival of to-morrow's train.

The Secretary: FED. GÓLCHER.

The Telegrapher: MONTERO.

## XXXVIII.

TELEGRAM: Handed in at Limón, 30-5-1903, 10.25 a. m..

Received in San José, 30-5-1903, 10.40 a. m.

To Minister of Police:

Schooner "Dolphin," arrived today from *Bocas del Toro*. Its health papers report 70 cases of small-pox at present, which compels me to maintain in force the quarantine and sanitary cordon the result of which has been very efficacious. In *Sixola* where there were some cases at first everybody was vaccinated and there have been no new cases.

The Governor: W. DE LA GUARDIA.

Telegrapher: ALBERTO ZÚÑIGA.

## XXXIX.

No. 63.

To the Secretary of State,

in the Department of Government:

San José.

LIMÓN, August 18, 1903.

I have the honor to forward to you herewith an account of the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* for C. 41.50, cost of various articles for the office of *Jefatura* and the cattle of that place, in order that with your approval they may be paid for.

With the greatest consideration, I am your obedient servant.

W. DE LA GUARDIA.

## XL.

N. 127.

To the Secretary of State,

in the Department of Government:

San José.

LIMÓN, December 11, 1903.

Herewith permit me to hand to you an account of the *Jefe*

*Político* of *Talamanca*, for C. 89.50, in order that if you approve its payment may be ordered.

With the greatest consideration I am your obedient servant.

W. DE LA GUARDIA.

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## XLI.

TELEGRAM: Handed in at Limón, 8-12, 1903, at 2 p. m.

Received in San José, 8-12-1903, at 2.30 p. m.

To Minister Government:

Election held with complete electorate. 27 electors. Protested nullity and abstained from voting Carlos Saborío and ten more. Of our party Rogelio Pérez did not vote. Elected for municipal officers unanimously Juan R. Mora M., Zacarias Chévez and Manuel F. Quesada, freeholders and Calixto Paredes and Eloy Gotay, substitutes. Syndics for *Limón*, Crisanto Fernández, for Jiménez Gonzalo Quirós, and for *Talamanca* Felipe Rojas.

The Governor:

W. DE LA GUARDIA.

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## XLII.

No. 112.

To the Secretary of State,

in the Department of Government:

San José.

SIPURIO, December 25, 1899.

As soon as the rains permitted and the rivers could be crossed I went to visit the *palenques* where I had reports there was sickness and I found hunger and misery is the only cause of the diseases of the Indians, since the anemia, consumption, rheumatism and ulcers are all that they suffer from, due to bad nutrition. There are families that live with only plaintains and *chicha* without sugar, since the latter is unknown to them, and although the climate is very good, without suitable food there cannot be health.

Carrying out your instructions I ordered a small bull to be killed and distributed the meat among the Indians most in need,

but I think to help their diseases there should be constructed a suitable building where the most needy could be gathered, at the least, to feed them and give them the treatment they need.

As you directed me to bring some medicines from my shop, I will give you an account of the same, with the expenses of my trip to your place when I was called by you and those for the transportation to this place of the drugs and baggage, and I take the liberty of enclosing it herewith.

During all of this month, up to this date, the Steamer has not been able to anchor in *Old Harbour* and there no other mail has been received than that which left *Limón* on the 7th, and this because I sent a special messenger by the shore to catch it at *Cahuíta*, taking five days in going and returning.

For a hundred pesos monthly there are several persons here who offer to take the mail by land, weekly, and regularly; which would be a great benefit, while as the service is now we do not know when the mail will arrive.

There is a route that leads from here to *Old Harbour*, passing in part on Colombian territory, which was where they travelled in former times and they avoided going up the River *Sixola* and the *Urén*, both very dangerous as I have before informed you, but for more than a year it has been entirely abandoned and it is now impassible for the trees which have fallen, uprooted, etc., etc., but with a small cost it could be repaired, this route being of great utility to avoid the crossing of the river and shorten the distance.

I have started the clearing of the pasture field, for it was all brambly and the cattle already hidden. Also I directed the cattle and animals that were strayed should be branded and I see little by little improvement in the condition of the farm.

If possible some arrangement should be made to prevent so much roving trade as there is. It is a real bother. As they go from one *palenque* to another, selling and buying, they can not be inspected, and already there are many complaints of the abuses they commit with the women of the Indians.

As the Indians do not know the weight they rob them in buying their rubber and sarsaparilla and even there are those who search the huts and the rubber they find they take it paying what they see fit.

It seems to me it would be well for every trader to have an establishment here in *Sipurio*, in order to obtain two results: first, to inspect the business of the traders with the Indians, and second, to watch the smuggling, which can easily be done and is done by those that have establishments on the other rivers. At the same time this measure would serve to increase the number of houses and inhabitants of this place.

I am, Señor Minister, your obedient servant,

VICENTE RODRÍGUEZ.

	October 31.
Ticket, 1st Class from <i>Turrialba</i> to <i>San José</i> .....	\$3.30
Medicines from my shop taken by order of the Minister	196.60
Paid four Porters, taking boxes and baggage <i>Old Harbour</i> to <i>Cuabre</i> .....	16.50
Paid two others that worked on the river as sailors and porters .....	10.00
Total.....	\$226.40
<i>Sipurio</i> , December 25, 1899.	

### XLIII.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government:  
San José.

SIPURIO, December 11, 1899.

With the greatest pleasure I advise you that from today I take charge of the position with which you have honored me and that animated with the greatest goodwill I am disposed to serve the Government in the best possible way, serving the interests of this important zone of the Republic, which has a bright future. My trip was a hard one, due not only to the difficulties in the way of making it but also from the severe storm that developed on my arrival at *Cahuitta*, and which obstructed by the great floods the only way of communication, which is by the River *Sixola*. But the troubles I met with were compensated by the personal knowledge of the first great needs that should be filled and the dangers that should be abolished.



On the first day of the month I set out from *Limón* and although I should have landed at *Old Harbour*, which is in fact the nearest maritime point to this locality, I had to do so at *Cahuíta* because the naphtha launch could not get there, as it had not arrived for some days on account of the strong tides. I had, then, to wait in *Cahuíta*, where I passed six days, poorly enough, as there were no resources of any kind, as there are none in any place in *Talamanca*. On the sixth day I came by the shore to *Old Harbour*, which, as I have said, is really the most important maritime point for *Talamanca*. Neither were there any resources, and of the three or four huts that exist, that of the Government where the Agent of Police lives, and the only one where a traveler can stop, is falling down; it must be repaired, or better build a house like that in *Cahuíta*. I recommend the Agent of Police there, Señor Joseph Hunter as a very courteous and useful person and who is said by those who have known him to strictly fulfill his duty and makes himself respected. On the 8th I left *Old Harbour* and arrived at *Cuabre* where I passed the night and on the 9th, in the morning, although the River *Sixola* was rising I started to go up stream, being able to do it by the courtesy of the Missionaries who sent me their boat, for that of the Government is entirely useless. Señor Minister, difficult, very difficult is that navigation; first on account of the bad character and construction of the small boats designed for that work, the struggle against the currents, which in places attain a velocity of eight to ten miles an hour; the continual crossing from one bank to the other, traversing rapids with the danger of overturning; the back-waters and eddies in which there are great risks, the submerged tree trunks, which cannot be seen by the boatmen, etc. And then the dangers to health, continually getting out into the water to lighten the boat in the numberless shoal rapids, the patience to keep one and a half or two days in one position, under a blazing sun or torrential rains, the lack of provisions and discomfort of sleeping places, for lack of them and the abundance of mosquitoes; all this makes the voyage the greatest obstacle to the progress of *Talamanca*, because it prevents immigration which is what gives life to places like this.

Besides there is the lack of personal security in that part of the river which divides us from *Colombia*, for on the bank be-

longing to the latter Republic live rubber gatherers, fugitives from justice, etc.; people who have no respect for anything and who stop at nothing. There have been cases of attacks upon boats, as happened in the month of September of this year, which was made upon the mail boat. This way of communication, the only one that exists, is undesirable, not only for what has been stated, but because it is impossible to better it.

It must be added that the road from *Cuabre* to *Old Harbour* is a difficult trail, across swamps and hills that are very steep.

From what I have stated, Señor Minister, you will understand that it is very difficult to give an impulse to this locality and start immigration with such obstacles and with such a road; and even if the road was good there remains the difficulty that *Old Harbour* is not a port; that in these months the surf is very heavy and landings cannot be made and it has been the case that the inhabitants of *Talamanca* have been isolated and without postal communication for a month or more. A road is needed by land, which leads me to make my first and most important recommendation, with the assurance that whatever money the Government expends to that end will not be lost, but will yield great results, making of the desirable lands of *Talamanca* an accessible district for national enterprises and foreign ones. Persons who are familiar with these localities assure me that it is entirely practicable to construct a road upon solid land and level country from here to *Cahuitta*, by which the trip can be made in one day, in that way saving time and avoiding dangers. The Engineer, Don Francisco Alpízar, who now lives here and knows this locality very well, assures me the same and I know that he has made trips of inspection for that purpose. It would be desirable and I permit myself to recommend that the Government direct the opening of that road, giving Señor Alpízar the direction of it, either by a contract or in such way as you may deem best. In my opinion this has the advantage that, Señor Alpízar having interests here and being acquainted with the locality, he would be able to do it under better conditions than any one else and it would avoid trips by engineers, always expensive. I insist upon this, Señor Minister and with this report I join my petition for the opening of this road, the importance of which you will judge.

Meanwhile, as I have no doubt that what I have stated will be provided, a boat is needed to carry the mail by way of *Sixola*, since the one of the Government is broken. In *Cuabre* there is a magnificent one, new and of very good wood, which is worth Eighty-five pesos, which I would desire to obtain for the service mentioned; so that I permit myself to request the necessary authority for such purchase; and for this it may be deemed best to sell a steer or some young bulls that are useless for breeding and invest their value in paying for said boat and in any other expense that will be for the benefit of this place, sending after the corresponding accounts.

In closing, Mr. Minister, I desire to again express to you the goodwill that animates me in regard to this locality and the desire that I have to contribute to the extent of my power to wake up *Talamanca* from the torpid condition which it is in, counting for this purpose upon the efficient and timely help of the Government of which you are the worthy officer. If this can be secured, even in part, I believe I shall be satisfied with what I have done and compensated for the troubles and labors that I have been through in this locality, the least of which is deprivation of social intercourse.

With assurances of distinguished consideration I am, Señor Minister, your most obedient and attentive servant,

VICENTE RODRÍGUEZ.

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#### XLIV.

To the Secretary of State,

in the Department of Government:

LIMÓN, January 21, 1900.

In the month of December last past I served the first ten days as *Jefe Político, ad interim*, of the Colony of *San Bernardo de Talamanca*; since the *Jefe Político* who took my place, Don Vicente Rodríguez, did not take possession of his station until the eleventh of December last, the date on which I turned over the office of *Jefetura Política*, as appears by the official documents in the Government of this region.

My salary for those ten days has not yet been paid to me, under pretext that the whole salary was drawn in favor of Señor

Rodríguez. As such a procedure is not legal, since I was the one who did the work and earned the money for those days, I appear before the Minister to make the corresponding claim that payment be made.

As I am leaving this place I leave my power of attorney with Don Gabriel Bonilla Martínez, directing him to secure this salary which is due to me by such means as may be legal.

I am, Mr. Minister, your obedient servant,

LUIS MEJÍA BRENES.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ. January 25, 1900.

Let the Governor of *Limón* report on this matter.

The Under Secretary:

PEDRO LORÍA.

SEÑOR MINISTER:

What Señor Luis Mejía Brenes claims in the preceding memorial is really just, since he served the *Jefatura Política* of *Talamanca* during ten days of the last month of December; but Don Vicente Rodríguez set out from here on the first of that month to take charge of the said office but by reason of bad weather he was unable to reach his post till ten days afterwards. During this period he earned his salary and likewise Mejía Brenes, who attended the office until his substitute reached there.

From this it results that in the first ten days two employees earned, each a separate salary; in view of which I decided to draw a draft for the entire salary in favor of Señor Rodríguez, hoping that in view of the claim of Sr. Mejía Brenes I should be directed to pay what was due to him.

In accord with the verbal indication given to me by the Minister on the day he visited this port, I send to the Department under his charge the additional corresponding lists.

I am your obedient servant,

J. M. SANDOVAL O.

## XLV.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Government.  
San José.

January 10, 1900.

There being various works of importance to be undertaken in *Talamanca*, which are of need, such as roads, fencing a pasture field for calves and sick animals, fencing one or two hectares of land, and planting them with sugar cane, which produces very well there, and there being a mill of the Government which has not yet been set up as to secure with it some revenue in favor of the funds there and stimulate the Indians to agriculture to which they are not accustomed, and lacking resources to undertake anything of this kind, permit me to state the importance of selling some old cows, useless for breeding, as well as some young bulls which are degenerate for lack of crossing and invest the proceeds in the works which I have indicated. •

The pursuit of smugglers is of the greatest importance in that locality, since the Colombians traffic with the Indians, exchanging merchandise for rubber, to the serious injury of the fiscal interests, but this is difficult for me because I have but one policeman to dispose of, nor have I any weapon that I can rely upon with which to apprehend any of the launches, of which I have word, that come here with merchandise.

Relying upon your assistance in my ideas I am again pleased to assure you that I am your attentive and obedient servant.

*The Jefe Político of Talamanca,*

VICENTE RODRÍGUEZ.

## XLVI.

To the Minister of Government:

LIMÓN, February 12, 1900.

Permit me to remind you of the claim that I made to you on your stop here, referring to the last ten days that I filled the position of *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*. The Governor of this district tells me that he reported and forwarded the draft for

your approval, with all the rest, and all came except mine, and this can only be an oversight permit me to remind you of it.

I am Mr. Minister your obedient servant,

LUIS MEJÍA BRENES.

TELEGRAM: Handed in at Limón, 15-2, 1900, 8.30 a. m.

Received in San José, 15-2, 1900, 8.30 a. m.

To the Chief Clerk: Ministry of Government.

I have not sent any draft favor of Luis Mejía because that being an extraordinary payment I supposed they would arrange it in your Department. Be good enough to tell me if I may send it.

The Governor:

J. M. SANDOVAL.

#### XLVII.

TELEGRAM: Handed in at *Turrialba*, April 6, 1903. 6.05 p. m.

Received in San José, April 6, 1903, 6.25 p. m.

To Minister of Government and Police:

Talked with Don Vicente Rodríguez, and he asks me to tell you that he is quite ill; but that he could go to the places of *Cahuita*, *Oljava* and *Cuabre*, but that it would not be possible for him to go to *Sipurio* and that in this place there are almost no inhabitants, that the Indians would be able to come to *Cuabre* since it is a journey of two days. That he will make the trip if you direct it, the expenses are provided or easy means of transportation, this being at the account of the Government and that it furnish two good persons that he will select, in the capacity of policemen. That with regard to the value of his labor, he leaves it to your judgment.

The Agent of Police:

RICARDO BONILLA.

#### XLVIII.

To the Minister of Government: S. D.

*Jefatura Política* of *Talamanca*, February 26, 1903.

I take pleasure in informing you of the condition in which is found the farm of the Superior Government and which it has in

this Canton, to wit: The number of cattle and animals altogether comes up to fifty-one head, of which the inventory is attached.

With regard to pastures, I will say that there will be four or five *manzanas* of natural pasture, which is not enough for the cattle and horses, much more if it is taken into account that they are not pasture fields in form nor cared for, but simply prairie.

*El Chahuite* is in very bad condition, the wire of the fences fallen for lack of staples and the size is of about a *manzana* and a half. The buildings which exist in *Sipurio* are two, one of them in a very bad condition, constructed of cane and palms, for which reason they do not last long.

In the Port of *Oljaba* there is a house, small, bought by Señor Pedro Barahona at the time he was in charge of the *Jefatura*, in exchange for two head, a cow and a colt, in order that it might serve as a stopping place for the authorities of the Canton, which is in very bad condition. The boat for the mail service is too old and in very bad condition.

There not being anything more now to advise you, I subscribe myself your most obedient servant,

FEDERICO J. ALVARADO.

List of Articles that are needed in the *Jefatura Política* of *Talamanca* for the care of the cattle and other works.

2 quintals of Salt.....	C. 10.00
2 Pack-saddles of tanned leather fitted out.....	44.00
2 Bridles, headstalls and reins.....	6.50
2 Cruppers .....	4.00
6 Halters .....	3.00
5 lbs. Tanned Sole-leather.....	5.00
25 " staples for nailing wire.....	10.00
2 Lamps and wicks.....	5.00
4 Halters of Leather.....	6.00
3 Pairs Spurs.....	4.50
5 bottles Carbolina.....	7.50
3 pairs Leggings.....	13.50
1 box Kerosene.....	10.00
50 varas (yds.) Manilla rope.....	2.50
— Rivets .....	2.50
1 Cloak .....	10.00

3 Buckets .....	4.50
12 Machetes .....	30.00
6 Axes .....	24.00

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Total..... C. 202.50

*Jefatura Política of Santa Cruz (Talamanca),*  
*Sipurio, February 24, 1903.*

FEDERICO J. ALVARADO.

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### XLIX.

TELEGRAM: Handed in at *Limón*, 12-2, 1905. 1.20 p. m.

Received at San José, 12-2-1905. 1.30 p. m.

To the Minister of Government:

Election held and unanimous result follows: Reg. Freeholders, Carlos Saborio, Emilio Echeverría and Felipe J. Alvarado; Substitutes: Hector Vargas and Máximo Acosta. Syndics for *Limón* and *Talamanca*, Lucas Alvarado and for *Jiménez González Quirós*. Tomorrow new municipal officers will be installed.

The Governor:

RICARDO MORA F.

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### L.

No. 337.

To the Secretary of State,

in the Department of Fomento:

San José.

LIMÓN, March 24, 1905.

I take pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your kind favor No. 217, of day before yesterday, and to state to you that I have taken note of the decision of your Department, contained in the Gazette of yesterday, relating to the complaint presented by Don Osmond L. Maduro, concerning a concession for exploiting the products of the national forests in *Talamanca*.

In this matter and with the purpose of informing myself as to how I shall proceed, permit me to consult you as to the following:



The decision of your Department is based, as indicated by the considerations stated, in the agreement No. 13 of May 5, 1899, in which is determined the district that each party interested can exploit for himself alone.

But subsequently there was issued the Decree of the Executive, No. 4 of November 15, of the same year, by which there was authorized the free exploitation of rubber, sarsaparilla, etc., etc., existing in the national forests, fixing the conditions under which such exploitation ought to be made and leaving annulled that determining the area in which the exploitation is to be made.

The concession given to Messrs. Alvarado, Gólcher and Madero, as well as all the rest that are in existence, is made under this Decree, which is the last law upon that matter, and as the Resolution of your Department orders cancelled that of the gentlemen cited, I believe that the others must also be cancelled, so that there shall be no damage to particular persons who are in the same situation as many others.

I note also that hereafter petitions of this character which are submitted must be presented for the approval of your Department, but I desire to know whether for the proper form of the memorials and other conditions I am to observe the law (Decree of the Executive cited) or the arrangement upon which the Resolution of the Department is based.

I beg you will be pleased, if it is deemed proper, to consider the questions which I respectfully submit.

With the greatest consideration I am your obedient servant,

RIC. MORA F.

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L.I.

No. 33.

To the Secretary of State  
in the Department of Government.  
San José.

LIMÓN, May 11, 1905.

I return to you duly executed the letters rogatory of the Judge of the *Contencioso Administrativo* in the indictment against the *Jefe Político* of Talamanca, Don Federico J. Alvarado.

With the greatest consideration I am your obedient servant,

RIC. MORA F.

## LII.

No. 73.

To the Secretary of State,  
in the Department of Police.  
San José.

LIMÓN, July 29, 1905.

In order that the action of the Government may be effective, in the effort to prevent infection by the pest, bubonic plague, which is now developing in the neighboring Republic of *Panama*, it is necessary to establish sanitary cordons at different points on the coast of *Talamanca* and in *Cuabre* of the same jurisdiction. In *Cuabre* and *Gandoca* with the watchword not to allow any one from *Panama*, and at the other points not to allow any one to come in this direction who has not a written certificate from the respective Agent of Police or Chief of the Coastguard as being residents of the place of their departure and not having come recently from *Panama*.

For this purpose it is necessary to incur in some expenses and to appoint an inspector of the cordons and I need the corresponding authority, as well as an order from the Minister of the Treasury to be able to use the launch "Santa Rosa," and for greater economy it is desirable to get from the same Minister a note to the Sub-Inspector of the Treasury here, giving him instructions to direct the Customs Guards of *Talamanca* to assist earnestly the action of this authority, placing themselves under my orders so far as relates to sanitary cordons.

As this is very urgent I beg that you will determine the matter as soon as possible.

I am your very obedient servant,

RIC. MORA F.

## LIII.

No. 85.

Government of the District of *Limón*.

Costa Rica.

To the Sub-Secretary of State,

in the Department of Government,

San José.

LIMÓN, July 13, 1905.

In conformity with your telegram of yesterday in which you are pleased to authorize me to contract for a special embarkation to carry to the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* the communication of the Cantonal Board, in which the appointment is made of the Electoral Board of the District of *Talamanca*; permit me to state to you that the launch "Vanguardia" of Maduro & Sons sailed last night from this port, going to *Old Harbour*, carrying the communication referred to for the *Jefe Político*.

I will in due course send the account presented by the Señores Maduro for the special trip of their launch, so that you may make the payment, if you deem it proper.

Your obedient servant,

RIC. MORA F.

## LIV.

TELEGRAM: Handed in at *Limón*, July 11, 1905. 12.40 p. m.

Received at San José, July 11, 1905, 1 p. m.

To the Minister of Government:

In order to be able to communicate to the members of the Electoral Board of the District of *Talamanca* their appointment and that said Board may be able to discharge their duty in time, I must send a special messenger and I will do it in a launch of Señor Maduro, for which service I will contract for account of the Government in order that it may depart this evening, if I do not receive due order to the contrary. The national launch is out of order.

The Governor,

RIC. MORA F.

## LV.

No. 98.

To the Secretary of State,

In the Department of Government:

San José.

LIMÓN, July 20, 1905.

Herewith I have the honor to forward the account for the amount of one hundred *colones*, submitted by Señores Maduro & Sons, for a special trip of their gasoline launch "Vanguardia," carrying on board the Commissioner to deliver to the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* the list of persons appointed to make up the Electoral Board of that District, so that if you deem proper you may approve it and direct its payment.

Your very obedient and respectful servant,

RIC. MORA F.

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LIMÓN, July 19, 1903.

Supreme Government,

To Maduro & Sons, .... Dr.

For a special trip of the launch "Vanguardia," to *Old Harbour* and return, by order of the Governor of this District ..... C. 100.00  
Approved,

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LVI.

TELEGRAM: Limón, August 18, 1905, 10 a. m.

Received in San José, 18-8, 1905, 11 a. m.

To the Minister of the Government:

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I have no other means of communicating to the Electoral Board of the District of *Talamanca* the arrangement No. 139 of day before yesterday than sending a special in the Government's launch if it appears proper to you, I beg you will obtain order that the launch may go.

The Governor:

RIC. MORA F.

## LVII.

No. 91.

Government of the District of *Limón*, Costa Rica.

To the Secretary of State

in the Department of Government.

San José.

August 30, 1905.

With the corresponding approval I have the honor to forward to you the following accounts for special work performed in connection with the recent elections:

Of Don Lucas J. Alvarado for.....	C. 25.00
“ Salvador González .....	15.00
“ Laudencio Castrillo .....	15.00
“ Benito Herrera C.....	15.00
“ Juan R. Acuña.....	10.00
“ J. Anto. Echeverría.....	30.00
“ J. Vte. Lorenzo H.....	30.00
Of the Principal Agent of Police of <i>Siquirres</i> for two assistants occupied in making up the lists of voters.	10.00
Of the id id of <i>Matina</i> , for expenses in making up lists of voters.....	63.50
Of the <i>Jefe Político</i> of <i>Talamanca</i> , for feeding members of the Board of the District that had to remain in <i>Sipurio</i> during the three days of the elections..	24.00
Total.....	C. 237.50

If you deem proper I beg that you will direct the corresponding payment.

I am your very obedient servant.

RIC. MORA F.

P. D. Not yet having been presented, I do not send herewith accounts of the clerks occupied in *Talamanca*.

## LVIII.

TELEGRAM: *Limón*, 2-9, 1905, 2 p. m.

Received at San José, 2-9, 1905. 8 p. m.

To Under-Secretary, Ministry of Government:

I know that the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, Señor Federico Alvarado, is in a serious condition in consequence of a cut that he gave himself in the leg being in the execution of an official duty. The Doctor Aguilar would go to assist him for C. 200. His death is certain if he is not seen in time. Tell me what I can do.

The Governor.

RICARDO MORA F.

## LIX.

No. 106.

Government of the District of *Limón*, Costa Rica.

To the Secretary of State in the

Department of Government,

San José.

LIMÓN, September 11, 1905.

Permit me to forward to you the enclosed account presented by the Doctor Don Mauro Aguilar, who went to *Sipurio* to assist the *Jefe Político*, Don Federico Alvarado, who was seriously ill. According to the report of the physician the patient is already convalescent.

Be pleased, Mr. Minister, if you approve it, to direct the corresponding payment.

I am your very obedient servant,

RIC. MORA F.

Supreme Government,

To Doctor Mauro Aguilar, Dr.

For one trip to *Talamanca* to treat the *Jefe Político*, Don

Federico Alvarado ..... C. 200

## LX.

No. 100.

Government of *Limón*:

To the Secretary of State in the

Department of Government:

San José.

LIMÓN, July 19, 1906.

The municipality of this District, at a session held the 11th of this month, took the action stated in Article V of the corresponding document, in regard to submitting to the Supreme Court of Justice the imperious necessity of decreeing an office of *Alcaldía* in *Guapiles* or in *Siquirres* and another in *Talamanca*.

This I have the honor to communicate to you, begging that you will be good enough, if you approve, to send a copy thereof to the Minister of Justice, for the proper action.

I am your very obedient servant,

RIC. MORA F.

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LXI.

No. 130.

Government of the District of *Limón*.

To the Secretary of State in the

Department of Government:

San José:

LIMÓN, August 6, 1906.

In Article VI of the session held July 30 last, the Municipality of this District agreed to support the petition for the creation of the office of *Alcaldía* in *Guapiles* or *Siquirres* and another in *Talamanca*, stating that it was asked for on account of the notable increase of crime in the said localities, which have daily a greater number of inhabitants, and where the *Alcalde* of this city cannot go for want of time, which is the reason for the alarm that is felt and the delay in the trial of cases.

Practically, the *Alcaldía* of this city is not sufficient to take care of so large a jurisdiction, even without counting *Talamanca*. One cannot go to that latter region without taking four days, at the least, for the trip.

I have the honor to state this to you in response to your official favor No. 214, of July 23rd last.

With the greatest consideration I am your obedient servant,  
RIC. MORA F.

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## LXII.

No. 170.

Government of the District of *Limón*.

To the Minister of Government:

San José.

September 5, 1906.

The *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* complains that since the month of May he has not received the Gazette, nor the Judicial Bulletin.

I beg that you will be pleased to direct the sending of these journals with regularity and the back numbers.

With the greatest consideration I am your obedient servant,  
FRANCO SABORÍO.

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## LXIII.

TELEGRAM: *Limón*, September 27, 1906. 8.30 a. m.

Received, San José, September 27, 1906, 8.30 a. m.

To the Minister of Government:

Don Federico Alvarado, *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, who is here, asks for a leave of fifteen days to go to the interior to see his family. Please let me know if I can grant it.

The Governor:

F. SABORÍO.

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## LXIV.

No. 224.

Government of *Limón*.

To the Chief Clerk of the Ministry of Government:

San José.

LIMÓN, October 3, 1906.

Together with your official favor No. 49, of September 29th last, there was received in this office the drafts Nos. 44, and 46,



for C. 11.00 and C. 45.85, respectively, to pay the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* expenses incurred for petroleum and articles for that *Jefatura* and a seal for the same. The said drafts have been delivered to the said *Jefe Político*.

Your obedient servant,

FRANCO SABORÍO.

### LXV.

TELEGRAM: Handed in at *Limón*, November 2, 1906, 10 a. m.

Received in San José, November 2, 1906, 10½ a. m.

To the Minister of the Government:

The Municipal Treasurer of this place, who receives the fines from *Talamanca* tells me that from October 9 he sent to your office the statement of fines for September.

The Governor:

F. SABORÍO.

### LXVI.

No. 229.

Government of *Limón*.

To the Minister of State in the  
Department of Government.  
San José.

LIMÓN, November 20, 1906.

The *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, in Note No. 42, of the 12th of this month, tells me the following:

"The Ex-Governor, Don Ricardo Mora, verbally authorized me to obtain a boat that is needed for commissions and the mail, since the fluvial route is the quickest, if not the only one employed, in exchange for cattle of the Government. In virtue of this I ordered the boat to be built and it has already been delivered to me. They ask the amount of fifty *colones* in cattle, or say one cow that is worth thirty *colones* and a calf twenty, or a mare. But as at the beginning of this negotiation Señor Mora resigned and I do not know your opinion in regard to it, I desire to submit it to you, in order that you may authorize me, if you approve, to carry it out, for as I stated before I have already received and have the boat in use.

LXX.

Government of *Limón*.

To the Secretary of State in the  
Department of Government.  
San José.

LIMÓN, February 25, 1907.

The bearer, Don Antonio Saldaña, is the *Cacique* of *Talamanca*, at present paid by the Government as auxiliary of the *Jefe Político* of that region. He goes to your Capital with the object of saluting the persons of the new Government and I have granted to him official passes by Railway, for himself and the persons who accompany him, who are a daughter and two nephews and Señor Guillermo Gabb.

I am your obedient servant,

FRANCO SABORÍO.

LXXI.

No. 355.

Government of *Limón*.

To the Secretary of State in the  
Department of Government.  
San José.

LIMÓN, February 14, 1907.

I have the honor to forward to you two accounts: One for C. 28.00, submitted by Señor Alfredo Rueda for food provided to the *Cacique* of *Talamanca* and family, during his stay in this city; and another for C. 6.00 which is presented by Señor Horacio Blackood for breakfast that he furnished them on their return to that region.

All in virtue of the statement of Señor Saldaña that these expenses would be for account of the Supreme Government; which I communicate to you for your action.

Your obedient servant.

FRANCO SABORÍO.

## LXXII.

TELEGRAM: Handed in at *Limón*, February 8, 1907, at 2.35 p. m.

Received in San José, 8-2, 1907, at 3.40 p. m.

To the Minister of Government:

Please direct that the *Diario Oficial* and *Boletín Judicial* be sent to the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*.

By the Governor:

F. GÓLCHER.

## LXXIII.

TELEGRAM: Handed in at *Limón*, 8-2, 1907, at 10 a. m.

Received in San José, 8-2, 1907: 11.20 a. m.

To the Minister of Police:

With note 359 of January 9 I sent to you the statement of fines imposed in December last, by the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*.

For the Governor:

F. GÓLCHER.

## LXXIV.

No. 483.

Government of *Limón*.

To the Secretary of State in the

Department of Government:

San José.

LIMÓN, March 18, 1907.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your official favor No. 516, of the 16th instant, and to inform you that in compliance with your directions I have advised the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* to send to me a detailed list of all the tools that are needed for the construction of the schools of that place.

I am your obedient servant,

FRANCO SABORÍO.

## LXXV.

The application of the Saldañas and Gabb includes, besides the appointment of a Board of Education in *Sipurio*, the following points:

I. That the Government provide the Board with the hardware, hinges, latches and nails necessary for the construction of the two buildings in which the schools are to be installed.

II. That there be given a pair of cows from the 80 that belong to *Sipurio*, to provide milk for the children.

III. That the wire be provided required to fence off the land that is to be the site of the school settlement.

IV. That some cloth be provided so that the girls may learn to sew.

V. That the inhabitants of *Talamanca* give military services in *Sipurio* and not in *Limón*.

VI. Establishment of regular maritime service between *Limón* and *Old Harbour* and sending an Engineer to survey a road to put *Sipurio* in communication with *Cahuita*.

VII. That a physician visit the locality and a drug equipment be sent for the service of the poor.

VIII. That foreign enterprises be forbidden to acquire lands that are now occupied by the Indians *Bribis*, *Talamancas* and *Cabécares*.

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## LXXVI.

No. 12.

Government of *Limón*.

To the Secretary of State in the

Department of Government:

San José.

LIMÓN, April 11, 1907.

The *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* to whom I sent a copy of the order contained in your official favor, No. 316, of March 16th last, regarding certain assistance to the natives of that region, sent to me a note of the hardware and tools needed for the construction of the buildings designed for schools, which articles I have directed to be made ready for account of your Department and I will forward them to *Talamanca* at the first opportunity.

The said *Jefe Político* tells me, among other things, this:

"With respect to the cows, permit me to correct a mistake, as it relates to my responsibility, so that you may be pleased to com-

municate it to the Minister who has been wrongly informed, according to private data that I have.

"The Government never has had here, nor will it have, the number of cows that it has been informed, that is 80.

"It is four years that I have had charge of this *Jefatura*, at which time there was delivered to me fifty head of cattle and horses, including very young calves. From that number there were sold fourteen head of cattle by the order of the Governor and fifteen animals died of buboes, according to information I sent to your office.

"In the report that I made during the economic year 1904 to 1905, I gave an account of sixty-three animals, notwithstanding the decrease mentioned by sale and death. There was a similar number in the past year, in the report of my administration for 1905 to 1906, there being no increase, due to the plague, which spread in that year, and even when I received orders to kill those that were afflicted I did not do so but cured them, succeeding in exterminating the sickness. According to the report, which I send to you separately, at present there are 77 head in all, which is an increase of 14 animals over the last two years, and this increase would be greater if the Supreme Government would provide for fencing in the cattle, for their better protection, since aside from the increase we regret nine casualties to large animals, bitten by snakes, killed by machetes and sickness not counting the little calves of some months, not for lack of care but from the impossibility of giving them suitable attention."

This I have the honor to transcribe to you for your information.

I am your obedient servant,

FRANCO SABORÍO.

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## LXXVII.

No. 21.

Government of *Limón*.

To the Secretary of State in the  
Department of Government.  
San José.

LIMÓN, April 15, 1907.

The *Jefe Politico* of *Talamanca* tells me in his Note, No. 2, of March 31 last, in conclusion what I copy as follows:

As opportunity offers and when the school-mistress be here I will send to you the list of cloth and articles needed for the needle work.

From the cattle of the Government I will provide the two cows in the form that you have been pleased to indicate to me. With regard to the cows, permit me to correct a mistake, which relates to my responsibility so that you may communicate it to the Minister who has been wrongly informed according to private data which I have.

"The Government never has had here, nor will it have, the number of cows that it has been informed, that is, 80.

"*It is four years that I have had charge of this Jefatura, at which time there was delivered to me fifty head of cattle and horses, including very young calves. From that number were sold fourteen head of cattle, by the order of the Governor, and fifteen animals died of buboes, according to the information I sent to your office.*

"In the report that I made during the economic year 1904 to 1905, I gave an account of sixty-three animals, notwithstanding the decrease mentioned by sale and death. There was a similar number in the past year, in the report of my administration for 1905 to 1906, there being no increase, due to the plague, which spread in that year, and even when I received orders to kill those that were afflicted I did not do so but cured them, succeeding in exterminating the disease. According to the report, which I send to you separately, at present there are 77 head in all, which is an increase of 14 animals over the last two years, and this increase would be greater if the Supreme Government would provide for fencing in the cattle, for their better protection, since aside from the increase we regret nine casualties to large animals, bitten by snakes, killed by machetes and disease, not counting the little calves of some months old, not for lack of care, but from the impossibility of giving them suitable care.

"I will thank you very much to send a copy of this important detail to the Minister, for I do not know the reason for exaggerating the number of the cattle and it is due to my reputation as a faithful employee to make this correction."

"I am, Señor Governor, your obedient servant,

"FEDERICO J. ALVARADO."

I transcribe this to the Minister, in order that he may take note of the same.

I am your obedient servant,

FRANCO SABORÍO.

# LXXVIII.

No. 37.

Government of *Limón*.

To the Secretary of State in the  
Department of Government:  
San José.

LIMÓN, April 23, 1907.

I have the honor to inclose herewith two copies of a like number of communications, addressed to this Government by the Republic Attorney (*Promotor Fiscal*).

I think, Sir, that there is at the bottom of this matter something wrong in claiming that this is the authority or the way to correct or prevent abuses of the character indicated by the Republic Attorney.

Indeed, what means could I use to prevent them? The police are unable to do much being very few in number; the customs officers are not under me.

Lastly, I have commissioned the *Agente Fiscal* only for the cases where an accusation is made.

But, and this is the main object of this communication, the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* addressed to me the communication of which I send the original. And here my intervention is just and honorable; if there is no law, there should be one passed in favor of these aborigines of *Talamanca*. It is very hard to think, besides, that these wretches have no property whatever.

I beg that you will take into consideration what is stated and seek means for securing the welfare of that colony.

I am, Mr. Minister, your obedient servant,

FRANCO SABORÍO.

Copy: No. 67.

SAN JOSÉ, February 20, 1907.

Señor Governor of the District of *Limón*:

It has come to the knowledge of this office of Republic Attorney that some persons are cutting timber and making cultivation on the vacant lands of your jurisdiction; and as the act referred to, on the one hand, leads to great damages to the Nation, and on the other constitutes an illicit act, since by the Decree No. VII of October 23, 1903, the provisions were annulled of Articles No. 530 to 534 of the Fiscal Code, I have the honor to bring it to your knowledge, in order that you may be pleased, by the use of means within your reach, to prevent such acts.

I am, Señor Governor, your obedient servant,

FRANCISCO FÁERRON.

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No. 81.

SAN JOSÉ, April 15, 1907.

Señor Governor of *Limón*:

Referring to your official letter No. 17, of April 11 instant, I desire to state to you the following:

It being prohibited by special Decree of which you are aware, the denouncement and occupation of vacant lands, it is clear that every person who, at this date is making clearings or materially occupying lands of that jurisdiction, ought to have the necessary title to accredit his ownership, and if he lacks this it is evident that he has no authority to perform such labors or acts, and consequently it belongs to your authority to prevent the continuance of such acts in respect to the provisions mentioned without any hindrance therefor on account of the reasons stated by the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, for the law makes no exception whatever in respect to that locality.

I take this occasion to advise you that I am informed that Señor David Lindo is cutting upon a lot of land that is vacant, of some six hundred hectares, located at the headwaters of the River "*Limoncito*," without the title that gives him the ownership of such an extent of land, and this being so you ought to



proceed under your authority in accordance with the indications given in my official letter No. 67 of February 20 last.

Your obedient servant.

FRANCISCO FÁERRON.

No. 3.

Señor Governor of this District:

LIMÓN, March 31, 1907.

I beg that you will explain to me your Circular of the 11th of the month ending this day, telling me to what persons the prohibition refers, occupying vacant lands,—if to those already holding they may be natives or from abroad or to those who thereafter claim to do so.

All the Indians have been working for a long time on vacant lands and over these they have carried out operations of buying and selling so that the same land has passed to different holders.

The people from other parts of the Republic and the few foreigners who are here, hold their cultivations in like manner as the Indians, and if they are proceeded against they will emigrate from this locality, which would be lamentable.

Therefore I hope you will indicate to me in what case and who should be prohibited from the occupation of lands.

FEDERICO J. ALVARADO.

## LXXIX.

Budget of the employees of the Government and Police subordinates of this Government, according to the present rolls:

### OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT.

	Monthly salary.
Governor .....	\$350.00
Secretary .....	180.00
1st Clerk .....	100.00
2nd Clerk .....	100.00
Porter .....	40.00

## POLICE.

Principal Agent, city.....	150.00
Secretary .....	85.00
Interpreter .....	75.00
Clerk .....	70.00
Principal Agent, <i>Matina</i> .....	75.00
id    id <i>Siquirres</i> .....	75.00
id    id <i>Guápiles</i> .....	75.00
id    id <i>Peje</i> , River, without salary.	
<i>Jefe Político</i> , <i>Talamanca</i> .....	100.00
<i>Cacique</i> .....	40.00

*Simple Police Agencies.*

In <i>Zent</i> .....	75.00
id <i>Guácimo</i> .....	40.00
id <i>Jiménez</i> .....	45.00
id <i>La Junta</i> .....	40.00
id <i>Pocora</i> .....	40.00
id <i>Tortuguero</i> (also head of Customs).....	25.00
id <i>Cahuita</i> .....	30.00
id <i>Sixola</i> (Indian) .....	15.00

## HEALTH.

Physician of the Circuit, 1st Chief.....	400.00
id    id    2nd id ( <i>Guápiles</i> ) .....	275.00
Health Inspector, <i>Moín</i> to <i>Guápiles</i> .....	150.00
2 Quarantine guards.....	50.00
In charge Quarantine, <i>La Uvita</i> .....	100.00
May 17, 1907.	

FRANCO SABORÍO.

LXXX.

No. 103.

Government of *Limón*.To the Secretary of State in the  
Department of Police.

San José.

LIMÓN, June 13, 1907.

I have the honor to forward to you a note of the *Jefe Político*

of *Talamanca*, in which he states that in the month of May there were no police sentences in his jurisdiction.

Your obedient servant.

FRANCO SABORÍO.

LXXXI.

TELEGRAM : From *Limón*, July 3, 1907.

Received in San José, July 3, 1901, 2½ p. m.

To Minister of Government:

"Santa Rosa" is ready for trip to *Talamanca*. Will await instructions from Dr. Carranza.

E. MONTEALEGRE, Sec.

LXXXII.

No. 191.

Government of *Limón*:

Secretary of State in the

Department of Police.

San José.

August 12, 1907.

I have the honor to forward herewith the statements of fines imposed by the Police Agencies of this region during the month of July past. Those of *Talamanca* and River *Peje* are not included because from these localities communications are very late due to difficulties in transportation.

I am your obedient servant.

FRANCO SABORÍO.

LXXXIII.

No. 219.

Government of *Limón*.

Secretary of Government in the

Department of Police,

San José.

LIMÓN, September 23, 1907.

Herewith I have the honor to send to you the statements of fines imposed by the Principal Police Agencies of this region, and

those belonging to the respective treasuries, for collection of the same, in the month of August last, except those of *Talamanca*, from whence I have received from the *Jefe Político* the note which, for your information, I will copy. It says:

"I have the honor to inform the Minister of Police, through the worthy medium of yourself, that during the month that now ends (August 31) there were sentenced in this *Jefatura* the following individuals:

"Nicanor Sánchez, for quarreling, twenty *colones*; Alejandro Sánchez, for quarreling, ten *colones*; Juan Hernández, for offences, five *colones*; Mateo Pino, for intoxication, five *colones*; Marcelo Pino, for intoxication, five *colones*; Pedro Vicente, spoiling work, twenty-five *colones*.

"The first five, being poor and without money to pay their fines, they were allowed to work them out in the school buildings."

The same official, in Note of the 12th of August states the following, which I copy for your information:

"I have the honor to inform the Minister of Police, through your worthy medium, that during the months of June and July last past, there were no convictions for police offences here. Order was satisfactorily preserved in the settlement. I beg that you will pardon the neglect on my part in not giving you the proper information in due time. Hereafter I will do better."

I am your very obedient servant.

FRANCO SABORÍO.

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#### LXXXIV.

TELEGRAM: From *Limón*, December 8, 1907, 2 p. m.

Received in San José, December 8, 1907, 2 p. m.

To the Minister of Government:

Municipal officers for 1908 unanimously elected as follows: José M. Callejas, Luis Acosta and Nicolás Flores, Freeholders; substitutes, Ezequiel Gutiérrez and Miguel A. Madriz. Syndic for *Limón*, Don Carlos Saborío; for *Talamanca* Lucas D. Alvarado and Don Gonzalo Quirós for Guápiles.

The Governor,

F. J. ECHEVERRÍA.

LXXXV.

No. 2.

To the Minister of Government,  
San José.

SIPURIO, April 11, 1897.

Installed in this locality in my post of *Jefe Politico*, I have the honor to inform you as follows:

On my arrival at *Limón* I met with difficulties in getting here, for the Governor was not aware of the irregularity with which the mail went to *Talamanca*, and the only vessel the Government counts upon for that was at the moment pursuing smugglers, which is an anomaly, for you will understand that it is not possible to make such a pursuit in a sloop. It is indispensable that this mail should have a fixed itinerary, for otherwise there will always be trouble for the proper administration of this locality. I have noted that to carry this mail there is an item in the Budget of \$150.00 and various persons who have sought to make a contract for it with the Administrator of *Limón* have not done so because he has not offered them more compensation than \$60.00, which I do not understand.

The Secretary here, Guillermo Gabb, is anxious that the resignation which he has submitted be accepted and the reason he gives is the small salary. I hope that you will be pleased to reply to me so that it may be settled. Gabb is indispensable in this *Jefatura* because he is the only one that can make himself understand with the natives and I think it preferable to suppress some other expenditure and give him more.

You will be surprised that I address you directly and I do not do so with the idea of passing over the head of my immediate superior, but to save time, which is a very great loss in this place.

The cattle here are in good condition; in the pasture it is necessary to make some clearing and now I am going to make a planting of sugar cane, so that it may not be necessary to bring it here; and especially when the mill is here which can easily be placed.

I hope with your wise judgment you will be good enough to let me know if I can be of any help in this region.

At another time I will speak to you about the road and other matters.

I am, Mr. Minister, your obedient servant.

ROGELIO PÉREZ.

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LXXXVI.

No. ....

To the Minister of Government: Office.

LIMÓN, January 11, 1908.

Article 4, of Session I, held by the Municipal Corporation of this district, at 7.30 of the evening of the 3rd instant, says as follows:

"The communication of the *Jefe Política* of *Talamanca* having been read, in which he asks for the appointment of a Secretary for that *Jefatura*, it was resolved:

To commissionate me to transcribe for you said petition, which reads as follows:

To the Governor of the district of *Limón*:

SAN JOSÉ, December 24, 1907.

In my last report of the past month I stated to you the urgent necessity for the proper administration of Justice in *Talamanca* that the Honorable Municipal Corporation of your district make an appointment for the office of Secretary for the *Jefatura Política*, for it happens that there are few persons in that locality who know how to write and these live at great distances, causing delays in sentences for police offences or criminal proceedings, there being no Secretary to authenticate the documents in the indictments.

Therefore I beg that you will use your powerful influence to the end that said Corporation, if it approves may make the appointment for this necessary and important position.

I recommend for the office of Secretary Señor Francisco Moreira, who will accept it with pleasure, and who is now in the neighborhood.

I am, Señor Governor, your obedient servant,

The *Jefe Politico*,

FEDERICO J. ALVARADO.

In copying for you the foregoing I have the honor to subscribe myself your obedient servant,

The Governor,

J. F. ECHEVERRÍA.

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LXXXVII.

No. 86.

Government of *Limón*.

To the Secretary of State in the  
Department of Police:

LIMÓN, May 29, 1908.

Permit me to forward to you the note which I have received from the Director of the Colonial School of *Talamanca* in which he shows very clearly the need there is for medical assistance in that settlement. This has been discussed many times before and the President of the Republic is convinced of the desirability of giving to *Talamanca* the advantage that is enjoyed by almost all the settlements of the country, although having greater facilities and resources for medical treatment.

I feel assured that I will be supported by your clear and sound judgment and in view of the lack of a physician who visits regularly the settlements of *Talamanca* and others of the Coast of this region that you will be pleased to do all that is possible to establish such service, which is already indispensable.

I am your very obedient servant,

J. F. ECHEVERRÍA.

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LXXXVIII.

TALAMANCA, May 25, 1908.

To the Governor of the district of *Limón*:

MY DEAR SIR:

I take pleasure in informing you that the Colonial School of *Talamanca* is now doing very well, with an attendance of 40 boys and 22 girls. There is only to be regretted the illness that almost always prevails, such as the fevers, which are easily treated, but as they result from other diseases that are unknown, they are not easily cured. Not only among the children of the Colony

are these diseases met with, but they are found generally throughout the locality. And how are these diseases to be combatted if this distant corner is left out of the hand of God?

No physician comes here and unfortunately there are not even any quacks, but only those who are called among the Indians, "Suxias," who heal or rather kill a great many unhappy ones, for if you knew how they treat them you would laugh or it would give you great pain.

There is, therefore, an urgent necessity that a physician come here who knows the different diseases which exist here and who can tell them what they must do.

Both the Government and the Municipality of the district ought to give attention to the health of the settlements, mainly to this one as being the last of those of the Republic.

I do not doubt that your mind will be influenced to do something for this isolated region and that soon we shall have here the pleasure and the satisfaction of seeing the face of a physician.

The new Board of Education has not been installed in expectation of the *Jefe Político*. The service list I send signed by the Secretary of the *Jefatura Política*, because here when a member of the Board is wanted he cannot be found.

In my next I will write more in detail.

I am with the greatest consideration your obedient servant,

ZACARÍAS ARRIETA.

# LXXXIX.

No. 148.

Government of *Limón*.

To the Secretary of State in the

Department of Government,

San José.

LIMÓN, July 8, 1908.

I have the honor to forward to you the paper which, through the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, has been submitted to me by some residents of that region, with the purpose of having it go to the National Congress, to which it is addressed.



I think that the petition as contained in the paper is incomplete, for there is no indication in it of an estimate of the cost of the road to which it refers, and, in case it was favored, it would not be possible to vote any fixed amount, but in order to satisfy the wishes of those residents I refer it to your Department, so that, if you think proper, you may pass it forward.

I am your very obedient servant,

DANIEL GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

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XC.

No. 346.

Government of *Limón*.

To the Minister of Government,

San José.

LIMÓN, November 5, 1908.

In order that you may be able to determine as you may deem desirable, I have the honor to forward to you the original of an official communication of the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, in which he gives an account of the difficulties he met with in carrying out the repair of the roads in his jurisdiction.

I am your obedient servant.

DANIEL GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

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XCI.

No. 66.

*Jefatura Política* and *Comandancia* of *Talamanca*.

To the Governor of the District of *Limón*.

October 21, 1908.

In order that through your worthy medium this official communication may be submitted to the Minister of Government, I desire to state the following:

Since the principle of authority was first set up in this place, it has been the custom of my predecessors and as a means of civilization to draw the natives to the centre of this district at least once a year, so that gangs can be made up for the cleaning and repair of the roads in accordance with the provision of law

and in order that with four days' work personally each one shall pay his tax that belongs to him and in this way get the said work done.

In requiring four days, it was considered that what one Indian would do in that time, one good *peón* (laborer) would do in one day, but as there was always discontent, on my arrival here I allowed a rebate to them of one day, leaving it at three days, for which they were required to work.

The reasons for not being able to make up the gangs and carry out the work are these: First, that the Indians as a whole are poor and live scattered; Second, that they are not known by their names; and Third, that they never have a fixed residence in one separate place;—all this, with the fact that when they get to know that gangs are going to be made up they withdraw into the mountains from whence it is impossible to bring them out, which never happened before, for they voluntarily presented themselves to pay their tax; and therefore it was that the Indians each year were gathered at this place, succeeding also in doing away with the bad and disgusting customs they have;—but on account of the Indian Guillermo Gabb, who also held with them in everything, seeking means of gathering funds with which to make a trip to the Capital, required each one of the natives to give him two *colonias* to make a voyage as their representative to petition the Supreme Government to exonerate them from these gangs and from the work which they did each year as a tax, it being compulsory; an offer that this Señor Gabb made to the Indians in order in this way to exploit them and make money out of them, as indeed he did, presenting himself before the Ex-Minister Licenciado Don José Astúa Agüilar, saying that here the Indians were compelled to forced labor, for which I was directed to abide by the law in this respect, but Señor Gabb did not state that it was the custom, established for many years in this locality, and I was under the necessity of appealing to the testimony of honorable persons and regular residents here, and even to that of Señor Gabb, which was false that I compelled the Indians to forced labor,—leaving it altogether that Señor Gabb sought to say something else to the Minister and it was badly interpreted, or that Gabb did not know how to explain his desire, and for that reason he gave to me a letter of satisfaction in which he

denies what he stated before the Minister and which I keep in my possession; and summing it up, what was the result of such a petition? That counselled by the said Gabb, who told them that they ought not to do this work or pay the annual tax they were accustomed to, now my authority has no force which is necessary, since even the *Cacique* Antonio Saldaña is of the same belief, in order to require the natives, nor by means of gangs for the reasons stated, nor to work as before in the nature of a tax, the said Gabb having made them believe that they can withdraw to their occupations in the mountains, since they are exempt from these obligations of order by the Minister.

The fact is to be regretted, for the work that must be done for account of the Supreme Government during this period, if the measures pursued by my predecessors are not re-established and which were done with the consent of past administrations, will be very heavy and will occasion considerable expense, since the Public Plaza must be cleared up (the old pasture of the Government), the roads of the middle part and neighborhood and the bad places repaired that there are at the rivers on account of the floods which have left them impassible. In virtue of this and to the end that the Minister may be pleased to re-establish, if it may be possible, the measure that I have stated, being one of utility and necessity, and in every way beneficial, or provide the manner in which this work must be done, as they are urgent, I subscribe myself, Señor Governor, with the greatest consideration, your most obedient servant,

FEDERICO J. ALVARADO.

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## XCII.

No. 34.

Government of the District of *Limón*:

To the Secretary of State in the

Department of Government:

San José.

LIMÓN, February 28, 1909.

Permit me to hand you herewith the report that the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* submits, relating to the recent unfortunate

occurrences in that locality, on account of the late storm, so that if you deem it necessary you may give me your orders concerning the way to relieve them.

I am your very obedient servant,

DANIEL GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

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### XCIII.

*Jefatura Política and Comandancia of Talamanca:*

To the Governor of the District:

LIMÓN, February 10, 1909.

In order that the Supreme Government and through your worthy medium may know what has happened, permit me to communicate to you the following:

On the evening of the 30th day of January last past there broke over this place a very heavy and torrential rainstorm, which lasted for seven days consecutively, or until the morning of the 5th day of the present month, resulting in a considerable number of damages, injuries and loss of life, which up to the present we have not been able to entirely ascertain. At the beginning of the catastrophe the residents, predicted a new flood like those which have occurred at previous periods, but on account of the darkness of the night, the roads impassible and the rain incessant, preventing any resident from leaving his house, they were disposed to wait till the next day to see if the water would not lessen; but at dawn of the following day matters grew worse, for already the Rivers *Coén*, *Urén*, *Dicote* and *Lari*, tributaries of the *Sixola*, in the midst of which this jurisdiction is located, had overflowed their natural banks and were united. That day and part of the night of that day the tragedy was terrible and will always be remembered by the dwellers in this place. The houses with all their belongings and animals were dragged over by the current, without being able to do more than save the lives of those who fled in search of refuge to the highest part of the mountains. More than 30 families are left in this place without a house and without shelter; besides it has not yet been possible to ascertain the number of the victims who have perished by drowning and the damages that have been caused by the floods in the mountains

where the greater part of the Indians reside, not being able yet in any way to cross the rivers that surround us and to which I have above referred; so that, for the moment, I confine myself to informing you what has happened in the centre of this settlement. The greater part of the houses are in ruins and the inhabitants broken down with their great loss which they have suffered and the danger they have seen. The old church, in which were the Missionaries with their school, as well as the Barracks, in which I had all my family had to be abandoned at a late hour of the night and in the water in consequence of the water from the River *Dicote* having formed a channel over the land where they were built. The damages caused by the floods on plantations, where there are forming great banks of sand and stones, are of great extent; the loss of cattle, horses and swine is to be regretted, because with these the private persons as well as the Supreme Government will suffer, with the herds for breeding which they had established. The greater part of the boats, the only means of salvation, were swept away, counting the one that would serve to make the trips with the mail, which was National property. For the moment it is impossible to estimate the damage, as it is not certainly known how many victims have perished by drowning, although I know surely that in the waters of the *Sixola* a considerable number of persons have perished, both from this Republic and from the Panaman territory. The timber that was ready for the building of the new church and the house for the jail were carried away by the floods; there are no roads nor ways of communication and the residents apply to my authority demanding relief for lack of food and of clothes with which to cover themselves, since now in this locality everything is lacking, so that I hasten to bring it to your knowledge.

I shall endeavor with more interest than ever to ascertain the number of victims that perished here, what families are left to public charity and what are most urgent needs that demand relief.

Hoping that this will be taken into consideration and that what the Supreme Government may provide in this respect will be for the relief of such great need, I beg to subscribe myself, Señor Governor, your obedient servant,

FEDERICO J. ALVARADO.

## XCIV.

No. 141.

Government of the District of *Limón*:

To the Secretary of State in the Department of Government.

San José.

May 6, 1909.

The *Jefe Politico* of *Talamanca*, in Note No. 76, of April 30th last, tells me that he has urgent need of a boat for communication with *Puerto Viejo* and the mail service, having lost the one they had during the storm of January last.

I beg that you will advise me if it appears proper to authorize me to provide and such a boat to *Talamanca* or to direct the *Jefe Politico* to have it made for account of the Government.

I am with the greatest consideration your obedient servant,

DANIEL GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

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## XCV.

TELEGRAM: From *Limón*, June 30, 1909; 2.10 p. m.

Received in San José, June 30, 1909, 4.10 p. m.

To the Minister of Police.

Señor Garro passing for *Sixola* told me in name of President that he acted in capacity of Principal Agent of Police in *Sixola*, besides Inspector of the Treasury. As no advice has yet been given out, please tell me if this is true. As that jurisdiction goes to *Gandoca* and there is a Customs official there, who also has charge of the Agency of Police and under salary, shall I continue making drafts to the latter or leave this auxiliary agency suppressed?

The Governor,

DANIEL GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

## XCVI.

No. 271.

Government of *Limón*:

To the Secretary of State in the

Department of Government:

San José.

August 28, 1909.

I have the honor to forward to you, original, the official communication which I have received from Señor Don Florencio Quirós, present Secretary of the *Jefatura Política* of *Talamanca*.

The statements of Señor Quirós, as an impartial person with regard to the matters locally of *Talamanca*, I consider as meriting much attention and therefore I permit myself to insist upon bringing before you the desirability of putting at the head of the *Jefatura Política* another person in the place of Señor Alvarado.

With great respect I am your obedient servant,

DANIEL GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

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XCVII.

No. 315.

Government of *Limón*:

To the Secretary of State in the

Department of Police:

San José.

September 20, 1909.

The Sub-Inspector of the Treasury of *Sixola* states the urgent need of creating a Principal Police Agency at that place and an Auxiliary Agency in *Barranca*, a place located between *Sixola* and *Cuabre*.

From the importance which that region is acquiring, due to the establishment of agricultural enterprises there, I consider the statement as meriting much attention and permit me to recommend it.

As the Principal Agency ought to be in charge of a competent person, it would be better, in my idea, that this same Sub-Inspector should be invested with that character.

I am your very respectful servant,

F. GÓLCHER.

### XCVIII.

TELEGRAM: Handed in at *Limón*, January 21, 1910, 11 a. m.

Received at San José, January 21, 1910, 12 m.

Antonio Saldaña, *Cacique* of *Talamanca*, died on the 3rd of this month and his heir, José, eight days later. According to my information it was caused by poisoning with tincture of iodine which the missionary gave them for external use.

The Governor,

F. GÓLCHER.

### XCIX.

No. 69.

Government of *Limón*:

To the Secretary of State in the

Department of Police:

San José.

March 17, 1910.

For some days the mortality in *Talamanca* is increasing in an alarming manner. The diseases raging there are ankilostomiasis and dysentery. The Municipality of this Canton petitions you, through me, that you may be pleased to appoint a physician for that region, where it is absolutely necessary. Not doubting that you will be pleased to receive favorably this request, with thanks in anticipation in the name of the Municipality, I desire to subscribe myself your most obedient servant.

DANIEL GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.



C.

No. 63.

Government of *Limón*:

To the Secretary of State in the

Department of Government:

San José.

March 10, 1910.

Permit me to forward to your Department, originals, two accounts, for C. 17.65 and C. 61.30, each ones respectively, amount of the expenses incurred in the *Jefatura* of *Talamanca* in the months of January and December last past, begging that you will be pleased if they are approved, to order their payment. The total is C. 78.95.

I am your very obedient servant.

DANIEL GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

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CL.

Government of *Limón*:

LIMÓN, May 28, 1910.

Señor President of the Republic:

SIR: I have the honor to transcribe for you Art. 2, of the Session XXIX, held on the 23rd instant by the Municipality of this Canton.

"Having read the motion of the Regidor, Alvarado, which reads literally:—Some time ago the Executive Power dismissed Señor Federico J. Alvarado from the position of *Jefe Político* of the Colony of *Talamanca*, on account of continual complaints from the residents there and from the *Procuradores Síndicos* of that place, giving him an absolute leave. There contributed, besides, to this the fact that in four years he had not turned in to the Municipal Treasury more than two *Colones* and fifteen *céntimos*, a thing which is shameful, but such is the fact: he had caused the fines to be paid in rubber or cattle, or they were taken off in days labor in his plantation, as appears by the inquest that was held by the former *Jefe Político*, Señor Rojas, which inquest is in the *Alcaldía* of this city by commission from the Judge

of the *Contencioso Administrativo*, in order that it be constituted in *Talamanca* and concluded there; but it was the case that the present Minister without knowing the antecedents of Alvarado returned him to command in that place.

The *Alcalde* will go there to prepare the indictment and it is very inconvenient for him to undertake to ascertain the criminal acts as that gentleman is there in authority.

I make motion that through the Governor a note be sent to the President of the Republic, in order that he may send him into the interior or at least change him until the investigation is ended, for otherwise and with the threats of Señor Alvarado nothing will be ascertained. I know very well, Mr. President, and I have full assurance that he will not appoint employees who will not manage honestly the public funds. This appears to the Corporation by the reports which they have received. The Syndic is also here, who can give information, for he has been there and has heard the complaints of the people; it is therefore in my judgment necessary to ask for the removal of this employee, through the Governor.

Put to discussion, the foregoing, it was agreed:—

To approve it and that through the Governor it be brought to the knowledge of the President of the Republic.

I have fulfilled the direction of the Municipality, in order that you may be pleased to determine what is best to be done.

Your very obedient servant,

R. E. PARDO.

## CII.

No. 258.

To the Secretary of State in the  
Department of Government,  
San José.

LIMÓN, December 20, 1910.

I have the honor to forward herewith the petition which has been sent to me by Señor Federico J. Alvarado, *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, in which he asks that he may be granted three months leave to be absent from his post. As I have reports that the

health of this gentleman is very delicate, permit me to recommend to your kind consideration the granting of this leave. At the same time permit me to indicate to you Señor Francisco Moreira, Secretary of the *Jefatura* as a capable person for the conduct of the post, during the absence of Señor Alvarado.

Your very obedient servant,

R. E. PARDO.

### CIII.

No. 254.

Government of *Limón*.

To the Secretary of State in the

Department of Government:

San José.

LIMÓN, December 17, 1910.

I have the honor to refer to your esteemed communication of the 15th instant, No. 1802. I have had repeated complaints from the Chief of the Demographic Section in reference to the lack of regularity with which the Principal Agents of Police forward their statements to that Department and each time that I have received a complaint of this kind I have immediately communicated it to the respective authority, urging them to be more faithful.

Within a few days the Principal Agent of Police of *Sixola* arrived here and I showed him the original telegram and he answered me that the statements had been despatched by him by way of *Bocas del Toro* and that probably they had gone astray, and that as soon as he returned to that place he would send copies.

I take this opportunity to tell you that communication with *Talamanca* is very difficult; correspondence despatched from this office has arrived at its destination eighteen days later; the necessity therefore is imperative that the Government establish its own mail service and not be subject to waiting for despatch of correspondence when there is an embarkation, which the greater number of times stops in *Cahuita* and not in *Puerto Viejo*, which is the place on the coast indicated to receive it, by the post that

is sent by the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*. Of the communication with the North Coast I must tell you that the service is worse yet, for it is very rarely that a boat goes.

In order to treat this matter, and various others I have been noting I await the arrival of the Minister, for I will thus be able to inform him of many needs of the locality which he can only appreciate by seeing them.

With assurances of my greatest consideration I am pleased to subscribe myself your obedient servant.

R. E. PARDO.

It is in conformity (with the original records).

Done in the city of *San José, Costa Rica*, at 10 a. m. on the twenty-ninth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and eleven, at the request of the Secretary of State in the Department of Foreign Relations of this Republic.

(Seal of

"Secretaría de Gobernación,  
Costa Rica").

CARLOS M. JIMÉNEZ.

**Doc. 563 Report of the Chief of the Administrative Section of the  
Department of Public Instruction.**

Department of Public Instruction:

No. 126.

Señor Under-Secretary of Public Instruction:

S. D.

SAN JOSÉ, July 6, 1912.

I take pleasure in advising you, regarding the schools of *Talamanca*, so far as can be ascertained in my office, concerning the persons who have served therein, dates of appointments and other important data relating to said educational institutions.

By Resolution No. 561, of March 7, 1890, schools for boys and girls were established for the first time in *Talamanca*, and Don Manuel Medina and Doña María de Medina were appointed to take charge of them.

By Resolution No. 20, of May 17, 1890, it was directed there be paid to the Governor of *Limón* the sum of \$66, the value of 50 boards and 40 planks for constructing the furniture of the school of the hamlet of *Talamanca*, as per account passed by the Political Chief of that place.

By Resolution No. 407, of September 23, 1890, it was decided to appoint as teachers of the schools for boys at *Térraba*, *Boruca* and *Buenos Aires* of *Talamanca*, respectively Señores Don Francisco Navarro, Don Francisco Dengo and Don José Figueroa, with the legal salary.

By Resolution No. 1114, of April 9, 1892, it was provided that those employed in the schools of *Talamanca* should be allowed the part of the salary not earned during the time that said educational institutions were closed, that is to say, 12 days in the month of December, 1891.

By Resolution No. 1201, of July 11, 1892, it was directed to consolidate the schools for boys and girls of *Talamanca* into a single mixed school and Señor Don José Moreno was appointed to direct it, with a salary of \$100 monthly.

By Resolution No. 1360, of January 11, 1893, the resolution No. 1201 of July 11, 1892, was repealed, re-establishing the boys' and girls' schools in *San Bernardo de Talamanca*, and appointing to take charge of them Don Manuel Vargas and Doña Pacífica de Vargas, teachers who served in their positions until the month of November of the same year.

By Resolution No. 42 of June 7, 1906, with a view to making preliminary preparations for the establishment of schools in *Talamanca*, it was decided to authorize the *Jefe Político* of that territory to act in the capacity of *Juez Escolar* (scholastic judge).

By Resolution No. 547, of July 14, 1896, it was decided to re-establish the schools that were held in *Talamanca* and to expend \$500 in the repairs upon the schoolhouse and the purchase of necessary furniture.

By Resolution No. 439, of April 23, 1907, a *COLONIA ESCOLAR* (scholastic settlement) was established in the territory of *Talamanca* of the district of *Limón* and there were appointed as the heads of it and for teachers in the schools for boys and girls of the same, Don Zacarías Arrieta and Doña Zoila Loaiza de Ar-

rieta, with salaries of \$100 and \$50 monthly, respectively. These teachers served until March 6, 1909.

Resolution No. 49, of June 16, 1898, says:

Considering that the Ex-Minister of Public Instruction, Licentiate Don Ricardo Pacheco, directed the reopening of the *Talamanca* schools, it was decided to allow the Budget salary to the employee who served there, until it was definitely settled whether said educational institution should be continued open or whether it should be closed.

By Resolution No. 56, of June 23, 1898, in harmony with the reasons stated by the Inspector General of Education, it was decided to close the mixed school at *Talamanca*.

By Resolution No. 369, of April 10, 1911, it was directed that under the section in the Budget for Common Education there should be paid monthly to the Priest Don Federico Monbach, Curate of *Talamanca*, the sum of \$75 for lodging and board of twenty-five children who attended the school in that locality.

By Resolution No. 367, of April 7, 1911, Don Juan Salas was appointed as teacher in *Talamanca*, with the monthly compensation of \$50. This teacher is still giving his services in that district.

The Priest Don Agustin Blessing, C. M., now Rector of the Seminary, has informed me that he was in the Mission of *Talamanca* from January of 1899 to January of 1905.

With the greatest consideration I am the Señor Under-Secretary's obedient servant.

P. BRENES CASTRO.

**Doc. 564 The Bishop of Costa Rica to the Minister of Foreign Relations.**

EPISCOPAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ DE COSTA RICA,

July 13, 1912.

Señor Minister of Foreign Relations.

S. D.

SEÑOR:

Responding to your request I send to you the list of the clergymen who have administered the Mission of *Talamanca* since the year 1881.

1881. The Priest Don Manuel Hidalgo.

1895. The Priest Don J. Vicente Krantwig.

1899-1904. The Priests Don Agustin Blessing and José Breiderhoff.

1904-1905. The Priests Don Agustin Blessing and Enrique Menzel.

1905-1910. The Priests Don José Breiderhoff and Enrique Menzel.

1910-1912. The Priests Don Federico Maubach and Juan Diete.

Since that time the Priests Don Federico Maubach and Castor Born.

I desire to state further to the Minister that I have not been able to obtain the Vocabulary of the languages of *Talamanca*, prepared by the Ill. Señor Thiel.

I subscribe myself, Señor Minister, with the most distinguished consideration your very attentive and obedient servant.

✠ JUAN GASPAR,  
Bishop of *Costa Rica*.

## Documents Relating to Elections for Deputies and Municipalities Held in the Province of Limón. Doc. 565

1905-1910.

*La Gaceta* (The Gazette), the Official Journal:

SAN JOSÉ, Tuesday, July 4, 1905.

*Executive Power: No. 6.*

ASCENSIÓN ESQUIVEL, Constitutional President of the Republic, in conformity with Art. 14 of the Election Law in force and for the purpose of duly fulfilling the provisions of Arts. 1, 2 and 3 of the Legislative Decree of May 24th of the present year,

### DECREES:

Art. 1. Let there be appointed as members of the provincial and district boards to act at the elections which are referred to in the call contained in the Decree mentioned, the following named persons:

\* \* \* \* \*

*Province of Limón:*

*Titulars:* Don Carlos Saborío I; Don Luis Fernández G.; Don Juan Rafael Mora Montes de Oca.

*Alternates:* Doctor Don Emilio Echeverría A.; Don Crisanto Fernández.

Art. 2. The boards indicated shall meet on Thursday of the present week and after being legally sworn shall proceed without delay to the appointment of the respective Cantonal Boards, the members of which shall assume their places and begin their work on the 10th instant, the members of the District Boards being required to fix the same day and designate the place where those bodies shall sit, in accordance with the electoral division which shall be indicated by a later Decree of this Secretaryship.

Art. 3. The District Boards shall meet on the 16th of the same month and shall proceed at once to make up the list of voters, in accordance with the provisions of Art. 24 of the Election Law above referred to; and these lists must be posted in the most public place in each district on the 3rd of August thereafter at seven o'clock in the morning.

Art. 4. In order to carry out Art. 5 of the same Law, the population of each district will be taken as fixed in the table sent to the Secretaryship of *Fomento* by the General Statistical Office on the 11th of May last, inserted in the Memorial of the said Office and which is published as an appendix to this present Decree.

Given in the city of *San José*, on the 3rd day of the month of July, 1905.

ASCENSIÓN ESQUIVEL.

The Secretary of State in the Department of Government:

JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

*National Department of Statistics:*

Demographic Section (Vital Statistics).

Population of the Republic of *Costa Rica* on December 31, 1904.

\* \* \* \* \*



*Province of Limón:*

<i>Limón</i> .....	4,071
<i>Matina</i> .....	977
<i>Reventazón</i> .....	1,196
<i>Tortuguero</i> .....	266
<i>Bananito</i> .....	661
<i>Jiménez</i> .....	1,521
<i>Hospital</i> .....	788
<i>Talamanca</i> .....	2,919
	<hr/> 12,399

Sum total ..... 331,340

*General Statistical Office:*

San José, March 11, 1905.

JUAN DE D. RAMÍREZ, Section Chief.

Approved.

MAN. GONZÁLEZ Z.

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*La Gaceta*; the Official Journal.

SAN JOSÉ, Sunday, July 9, 1905.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Government:*

Organization of the Electoral Boards of Provinces and Districts.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Province of Limón:*

President: Don Carlos Saborío I.

Secretary: Don Juan Rafael Mora Montes de Oca.

Secretaryship of Government:

San José. July 8, 1905.

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Members of the Cantonal Electoral Boards, appointed by the respective Boards of Provinces and Districts.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Province of Limón: Sole Canton.*

*Titulars:* Don Allen Anderson; Don Sigifredo Vargas; Don Filadelfo Granados.

*Alternates:* Don Luis Iglesias Castro; Don Zacarías Rodríguez.

Secretaryship of Government:

*San José, July 8, 1905.*

*La Gaceta: the Official Journal.*

SAN JOSÉ, Wednesday, July 12, 1905.

\* \* \* \* \*

Organization of the Cantonal Electoral Boards of the Republic.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Province of Limón: Sole Canton.*

President: Don Filadelfo Granados.

Secretary: Don Sigefredo Vargas.

Secretaryship of Government:

*San José, July 11, 1905.*

*La Gaceta (The Gazette); the Official Journal:*

SAN JOSÉ, Tuesday, July 25, 1905.

\* \* \* \* \*

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT:

Members of the District Electoral Boards, appointed by the respective Cantonal Boards:

*Province of Limón: Sole Canton:*

\* \* \* \* \*

**District 3. Talamanca.**

*Titulars:* Don Justo Rodríguez; Don Luciano Blanco; Don Guillermo Gabb.

*Alternates:* Don Felipe Rojas; Don Paulino Méndez.

Secretaryship of Government:

*San José, July 24, 1905.*

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*La Gaceta (The Gazette): the Official Journal.*

SAN JOSÉ, Sunday, July 30, 1905.

\* \* \* \* \*

**GOVERNMENT.**

Organization of the Electoral Boards of the Districts of the Republic.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Province of Limón: Sole Canton.*

District 1. *Centro, Matina, Reventazón, Tortugarro, Estrella, Cieneguita, Bananito and Cahuita.*

*President:* Don Eduardo Béeche Argüello.

Secretary: Don Ismael Alvarado Matarrita.

District 2. *Jiménez* and Hospital.

President: Don Luis Acosta.

Secretary: Don Manuel Bravo.

District 3. *Talamanca*.

President: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretaryship of Government:

*San José*, July 28, 1905.

---

*La Gaceta*: the Official Journal.

SAN JOSÉ, Thursday, August 3, 1905.

\* \* \* \* \*

GOVERNMENT:

Electoral quota for 1906 to 1910, for each one of the districts; fixed by the respective provincial and territorial Electoral Boards, in accordance with Paragraph 1 of Art. 14 of the respective Law, according to the actual division and by the statistical census of 1904.

\* \* \* \* \*

<i>Province of Limón:</i>	<i>Inhabitants.</i>	<i>Freeholders.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
<i>Limón</i> (sole Canton).....	12,399	33	11
(Total, Province of <i>Limón</i> )	12,399	33	11

*Summary by Provinces and Territories.*

<i>San José</i> .....	104,375	267	89
<i>Alajuela</i> .....	79,479	210	70
<i>Cartago</i> .....	52,514	135	45
<i>Heredia</i> .....	39,220	102	34
<i>Guanacaste</i> .....	26,768	81	27
<i>Puntarenas</i> .....	17,085	39	13
<i>Limón</i> .....	12,399	33	11
Total for the Republic...	331,840	867	289

*Note.*

Under the provision in Decree No. 11, of July 28 of the present year, the settlement of "*Las Quebradas*," the population of which is calculated at 200 inhabitants, is left added to the second district of the Canton of *Alajuela*; and that of "*Sabana Redonda*," with a population of about 300, forms the whole of the third district of the Canton of *Poás*. Each of these cantons is left with its population proportionately changed.

Secretaryship of Government:

*San José*, August 2, 1905.

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*La Gaceta*: the Official Journal.

SAN JOSÉ, Sunday, September 17, 1905.

\* \* \* \* \*

In the city of *Limón*, at four o'clock in the afternoon of the twenty-fourth of August, 1905.

At a meeting of the undersigned, members of the Electoral Board of this territory, and in accordance with Art. 40 of the Election Law:—

\* \* \* \* \*

Let these appointments be communicated for the information of whoever it may concern.

Thereupon the counting of the votes cast at the election held in the third district, *Talamanca*, was had with the following result:

On the 20th 184 voters cast their ballots for principal electors for Nicolás Flores Alvarez, Carlos Mora R., Zacarías Chévez, Zacarías Rodríguez, Filadelfo Granados, and Antonio Escalante; and the same number of votes were had for alternates: Maurilio Mora and Guillermo Gabb.

On the 21st the same list obtained 114 votes and on the 22nd the same list obtained 29 votes; and therefore this Board, in accordance with Art. 43 of the Law referred to, declares elected as principal electors: Nicolás Flores Alvarez, Carlos Mora R., Zacarías Chévez, Zacarías Rodríguez, Filadelfo Granados and Antonio Escalante; and as alternates, Maurilio Mora and Guillermo Gabb.

Let these appointments be communicated for the information of whoever it may concern, and let a duplicate be sent to the Minister of Government, as provided by Art. 46 of the said Law.

The member Luis Fernández Güell objected and refused to recognize the persons chosen as electors under these proceedings for the second district, on the ground that he deemed the elections held in that district on the 20th, 21st and 22nd of no effect and void.

CARLOS SABORÍO I.

L. FERNÁNDEZ G.

J. R. MORA M.,  
Secretary.

# APPOINTMENT OF PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT ELECTION BOARDS.

*Republic of Costa Rica. Electors of the Republic, 1906-1910.*

Published in *La Gaceta*, the Official Journal of the Republic,  
for 1905-1911.

SAN JOSÉ, NATIONAL PRINTING OFFICE, 1906.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Province of Limón: Sole Canton.*

District I. *Centre, Matina, Reventazón, Tortuguero, Estrella, Cienagueta, Bananito and Cahuita.*

\* \* \* \* \*

District II. *Jiménez and Hospital.*

\* \* \* \* \*

District III. *Talamanca.*

*Titulars:* Nicolás Flores Alvarez; Carlos Mora R.; Zacarías Chévez; Zacarías Rodríguez; Filadelfo Granados; Antonio Escalante.

*Alternates:* Maurilio Mora; Guillermo Gabb.

Secretaryship of Government:

*San José, October 27, 1905.*

*La Gaceta:* the Official Journal:

SAN JOSÉ DE COSTA RICA, August 25, 1909.

\* \* \* \* \*

Telegram from Limón. August 22, 1909.

To the Minister of Government:

The Electoral Board of this Canton, at its session of day before yesterday, appointed as members of the auxiliary boards, the following:

FIRST DISTRICT: first auxiliary board: *Titulars*: Don Clement Santos, Don José María Callejas and Don José González; *Alternates*, Don Alejandro Cantón and Don Rodrigo López;—second auxiliary board: *Freeholders*: Don Ricardo Bonilla, Don Zacarías Greurero, and Don Héctor Vargas; *Alternates*, Don Juan J. Orfila and Don Francisco Ruiz;—third auxiliary board: *Titulars*: Don Federico Herrera G. Don Gerardo Iglesias and Luis Morales; *Alternates*: Don Nicolás Flores and Don Manuel Lopez.

FOURTH DISTRICT: sole auxiliary board: *Titulars*: Don Samuel Piza, Don Ernesto Quiros, Don José Facio; *Alternates*, Don Joaquín Tinoco and Don Pedro Pablo Boza.

SIXTH DISTRICT: sole auxiliary board; *Titulars*: Don Luis Ortiz, Don Manuel Antonio Zepeda and Don Eliseo Lacayo; *Alternates*, Don José Saldaña and Don Pedro López.

This I take pleasure in communicating to you:

The Governor:

DANIEL GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

*La Gaceta:* the Official Journal.

SAN JOSÉ DE COSTA RICA, October 2, 1909.

\* \* \* \* \*

(Continuation).

In the city of *Limón*, at seven o'clock in the evening of the sixth of September, 1909.

This being the hour indicated for making up the election returns from voting registers, the undersigned members of the Electoral Board of this province proceeded accordingly.

It appeared that at this session, in place of the alternate Don J. Jorge Fonseca the alternate Don Luis Acosta was present.

DISTRICT SIXTH: *Talamanca*. This district has a body of nine Titular electors and three alternates.

Each one of the following named persons received six votes as Titular electors: Zacarías Arrieta, Francisco Moreira Valverde, Felipe Rojas R., Carlos Moritz Marker, Juan Félix Barrientos, Serafín Arnáez Briceño, Fermín Meza Murillo, José Luis Soto, Justino Vallejos Bestard; and a like number of votes were cast for alternate electors, for each of the following persons: Manuel Mareno Córdoba, Sérvulo Corrales Vargas, Sebastián Morales Montero.

In like manner two hundred and thirty-one votes were cast for freeholder electors for each of the following: Miguel Brenes Volio, Guillermo Gabb, Carlos Mora Rojas, Rosa Arias Tapia, Zacarías Guerrero A., Guillermo Sáenz Cordero, Leopoldo Guzmán Rojas, Ricardo Bonilla Hernández, Clemente Santos Ruiz; and a like number of votes for alternate electors for each one of the following: Luciano Blanco, Vicente Hernández Ramírez, Jesús Jiménez Umaña.

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*La Gaceta*: the Official Journal.

SAN JOSÉ DE COSTA RICA, July 23, 1910.

\* \* \* \* \*

No. 45. The Constitutional Congress of the Republic of *Costa Rica*, *Considering*:

That the elections of the first grade have been annulled, held in August last in some districts of the Provinces of *Guanacaste*, *Puntarenas* and *Limón*, and that it is necessary to proceed to new elections to fill up the respective electoral assemblies, the Province of *Limón* being now without its representatives in the National Congress.

DECREES:

Art. 1. Let the 30th and 31st days of October next be designated for holding the elections of the first grade in the place of those which were declared void in the districts of the Provinces of *Guanacaste*, *Puntarenas* and *Limón*.

Art. 2. On the 15th of August next the provincial boards which were incomplete shall be installed; on the 20th of the same

August the Cantonal Boards and on the 1st of September the principal ones of the districts shall be installed; and on the 20th of October the auxiliary ones of the districts shall be installed.

Art. 3. On the 18th of September next the list of the voters must be made, as provided by Art. 24 of the Election Law in force, and be given to the public on September 19th, in accordance with Art. 25 of that law.

Art. 4. Up to the 3rd day of October of the present year, inclusive, petitions for inclusion may be made, and up to the 6th of October those for exclusion. Resolutions passed by the boards relating to such petitions, after the 10th of October, shall be absolutely void.

Art. 5. The final list of voters should be ready and posted, under Art. 31 of said Law, on October 17th; and on the 25th of that month the principal district boards shall have made the distribution of the voters in the form and manner provided in Art. 32 of the Election Law.

Art. 6. On the 27th of November next the Electoral Assembly of the Province of *Limón*, shall hold an election for a titular deputy in the place of Señor Carlos Saborío Iglesias; and for an alternate in the place of Señor Napoleón Quiros.

Art. 7. The Arts. 7, 20, 24, 25, 28, 30, 31, 32 and 85 of the Election Law now in force are amended in these respects, as a temporary measure.

*To the Executive Power:*

Given in the Session Hall of Congress: National Palace. San José, July 20, 1910.

EZEQUIEL GUTIÉRREZ: Deputy President.

AD. ACOSTA: Deputy Secretary.

PEDRO ZUMBADO: Deputy Acting Secretary.

San José, July 20, 1910.

Let it be executed:

RICARDO JIMÉNEZ.

The Secretary of State in the Department of Government:

CARLOS M. JIMÉNEZ.



*La Gaceta* (The Gazette): the Official Journal.

SAN JOSÉ DE COSTA RICA, November 5, 1910.

No. 28. RICARDO JIMÉNEZ, Constitutional President of the Republic of *Costa Rica*,

In accordance with the provisions of Arts. 2 and 3, and paragraph 1 of Art. 5, of Law No. 131, of November 9, 1909, relating to municipal organization, and having in view the last Statistical Year Book, in that which relates to the population of the Republic.

# DECREES.

Sole Article: The Electoral Assembly of each Canton, on the 8th day of December next, shall choose the respective *regidores* in the number of titulars and alternates heinafter given:

\* \* \* \* \*

Province of *Limón*: Canton of *Limón*, with 16,221 inhabitants: 5 titulars and 3 alternates.

Given in the city of San José, on the fourth day of the month of November, 1910.

RICARDO JIMÉNEZ.

The Secretary of State in the Department of Government:

CARLOS M. JIMÉNEZ.

*Republic of Costa Rica. Electors of the Republic, 1910-1914.*

SAN JOSÉ, NATIONAL PRINTING OFFICE, 1910.

\* \* \* \* \*

Province of *Limón*: Sole Canton.

District 1. *Limón, Tortuguero, Bananito.*

\* \* \* \* \*

District 6. *Talamanca.*

*Titulars:* William Gabb; Francisco Moreira Valverde; Alejandro Valle Riertra; Alberto Monge Reyes; Ramón W. Mora; Serafín Arnáez Briceno; Eduardo Béche; José Luis Soto; Crisanto Fernández.

*Alternates:* Carlos Johanning; Justino Vallejo B.; Jenaro Solano.

*La Gaceta*: The Official Journal.

SAN JOSÉ DE COSTA RICA, January 19, 1911.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Provincial Electoral Board:*

*Limón: Republic of Costa Rica.*

In the city of *Limón*, on the sixth day of January at 10.30 in the morning, 1911.

At a meeting of the Electoral Board of this province, the following persons were present:

Crisanto Fernández, Eusebio Arnáez and Ricardo Mora F., freeholder members; and Selim Castro B., and Eduardo Maroto, alternate members in the place of the titulars Roberto Smyth and Dr. Emilio Echeverría and of the alternate Licenciado J. Jorge Fonseca, who were not present.

Held, with the former in the chair and the latter acting secretary, to make declaration of the appointment of the electors of the Sixth District of this province (*Talamanca*), the Court of Justice having already decided the claim of invalidity as established; having in view Decree No. 1, dated the 3rd of the present month, published in the Gazette of the 4th, wherein the Executive Power convokes the Electoral Assembly of this province to proceed upon the 15th of the current month to hold the election for deputies, city councilmen and syndics by reason of the Court of Appeals having already decided the claim of nullity of the elections of the first grade of the district of *Talamanca*; and the Board declared that the appointment of titulars, electors and alternates of the above mentioned district, for the quadrennial period from 1910 to 1914, includes the persons who are hereinafter indicated:

*Sole Canton: Sixth District.*

*Talamanca: Titulars:* William Gabb, Francisco Moreira Valverde, Alejandro Valle Riestra, Alberto Monge Reyes, Ramon W. Mora, Serifín Arnáez Briceño, Eduardo Béeche, José Luis Soto Crisanto Fernández. *Alternates:* Carlos Johanning, Justino Vallejo B., Jenaro Solano.

At 11 a. m. of this same day the meeting adjourned, with the understanding that within the next twenty-four hours the Presi-

dent communicate their appointment to the persons chosen.

Two copies of the present document will be made, which the members of the Board authorize under Art. 46 of the Law.

CRISANTO FERNÁNDEZ, President.

E. Arnáez, member. R. Mora F., member. S. Castro B., member. E. Maroto, Secretary.

## **Certificate of the Vacant Lands Denounced in Talamanca. Doc. 566**

1887-1911.

ALEJANDRO JIMÉNEZ CARRILLO, *Secretary of the Juzgado Primero de lo Contencioso Administrativo* (Primary Tribunal for the hearing of administrative questions): CERTIFIES:

That during the existence of this tribunal the following denouncements of land have been made in *Talamanca*, and of the following mines:

- José María Albán and associates, 1891, Dec. 10, vacant.
- Juan C. Lyon and associates, 1891, Aug. 24, vacant.
- W. Hornell Reynold Ward, 1891, July 28, vacant.
- C. F. Willis P. P., Minor C. Keith, 1891, Sept. 18, vacant.
- J. Pizzano and L. Cash Arnold, 1891, Nov. 30, mine.
- J. J. Rodríguez and associates, 1892, Jan. 22, mine.
- Demetrio Iglesias and associates, 1892, Sept. 4, vacant.
- Buenaventura Corrales B., 1892, Sept. 20, vacant.
- Roberto Castro and associates, 1892, Oct. 11, vacant.
- Eloy Truque y García, 1892, Oct. 13, vacant.
- Antonio Giustiniani, wife, and others, 1892, Oct. 4, vacant.
- José Moreno Quesada, 1892, Oct. 21, vacant.
- José M. Cuervo and wife, 1892, Oct. 22, vacant.
- Agustín Gutiérrez I., for children, 1892, Oct. 11, vacant.
- Ernesto Foster Austen and wife, 1892, Oct. 24, vacant.
- Agustín Gutiérrez and wife, 1892, Oct. 27, vacant.
- José María Tames B., 1892, Oct. 13, vacant.
- Buenaventura Corrales B., 1892, Nov. 29, vacant.
- Agustín Gutiérrez I., 1892, Oct. 27, vacant.
- Francisco Peralta A., and associates, 1892, Dec. 3, vacant.
- Juan Yong Ureña, 1892, Dec. 27, vacant.
- José Joaquín Rodríguez Z., 1893, Jan. 10, vacant.
- Eloy Truque García, 1893, Jan. 14, vacant.

- José Vargas Montero, 1893, Jan. 14, vacant.  
 Domingo Falmischi, 1893, Feb. 2, vacant.  
 Juan María Esquivel and associates, 1892, Dec. 3, vacant.  
 B. Vargas for the District of *Limón*, 1893, Feb. 23, vacant.  
 Pánfilo J. Valverde and wife, 1892, Nov. 28, vacant.  
 Pánfilo J. Valverde and children, 1893, Jan. 28, vacant.  
 Milciades Cifuentes, 1892, Oct. 14, vacant.  
 Juan Lyon and associates, 1891, Oct. 6, mine.  
 Demetrio Iglesias and associates, 1893, Nov. 11, vacant.  
 Jacinto Xirinach Pérez, 1893, Oct. 7, vacant.  
 Alejandro Frasco Pirie, 1893, Nov. 30, vacant.  
 Carlos Francisco Salazar and associates, 1893, Nov. 8, vacant.  
 Jhosna Heath Sobeg and wife, 1893, Nov. 16, vacant.  
 Raimundo Pardo and associate, 1893, Nov. 27, vacant.  
 Francisco de P. Boza and associates, 1893, Dec. 1, mine.  
 G. B. Julio Mossa Merri and associates, 1894, May 2, vacant.  
 Carlos J. de Silva and associates, 1894, July 19, vacant.  
 Maximino Esquivel and associates, 1894, Sept. 14, vacant.  
 Jesús Alfaro Fernández and associates, 1894, Sept. 7, vacant.  
 Demetrio Iglesias Llorente and associates, 1894, Sept. 5, vacant.  
 Octavia Quesada Vargas and associates, 1894, Aug. 28, vacant.  
 Cleto González Viquez and associates, 1895, April 3, vacant.  
 Jenaro Morales and associates, 1895, March 25, vacant.  
 Juan J. Ulloa and associate, vacant.  
 Juan J. Ulloa and associate, vacant.  
 José María Castro and associate, mine.  
 Charles H. Windham, 1893, Sept. 16, vacant.  
 Gerardo Ramírez Carazo, 1898, Feb. 2, mine.  
 Gerardo Ramírez Carazo, 1898, Jan. 25, mine.  
 Juan J. Ulloa and associates, 1895, June 6, vacant.  
 Carolina Lizano de Astúa and associates, 1900, March 1, vacant.  
 Nicolás Oreamuno O. and associates, 1900, March 2, vacant.  
 Agustín Gutiérrez Y. and children, 1900, March 2, vacant.  
 Francisco de P. Gutiérrez Ross, 1900, March 2, vacant.  
 Ramón Loría Yglesias and children, 1900, March 2, vacant.  
 Eulogio Samuel Quintana and associates, 1900, March 2, vacant.  
 Francisco Echeverría García and associates, 1900, March 1,  
 vacant.  
 Jules Second Brusson and associates, 1900, March 1, vacant.

- Leoncio Bonilla de Vars, 1900, March 19, mine.  
 Santiago Fernández and associates, 1900, March 19, mine.  
 Francisco María Yglasias Llorente and associates, 1900, March 19, mine.  
 Carlos Yglesias Castro and associates, 1900, March 19, mine.  
 Miguel Velázquez Rigoni and associates, 1900, March 19, mine.  
 Elizardo Maceo Rizo and wife, 1900, April 5, mine.  
 Demetrio Yglesias Llorente and associates, 1900, April 5, mine.  
 Moisés Castro Fernández and associates, 1900, April 17, mine.  
 Ramón Castro Fernández, 1900, April 19, mine.  
 Eloy Truque y García, 1900, April 20, mine.  
 Carlos Yglesias, 1900, April 20, mine.  
 José María Castro Fernández and associate, 1900, April 23, mine.  
 José María Figueroa Oreamuno, 1900, April 23, mine.  
 Máximo Soto Hall and wife, 1900, April 23, mine.  
 Eloy Truque García, 1900, May 19, mine.  
 Roberto Augusto Nanne, 1900, July 3, mine.  
 Elois Tournon Fasileau and associates, 1900, July 16, mine.  
 Francisco de P. Boza and children, 1900, July 24, mine.  
 Francisco de P. Boza and children, 1900, July 24, mine.  
 Jules Second Brusson and associate, 1900, Sept. 13, mine.  
 Jules Second Brusson and associate, 1901, Aug. 22, mine.  
 Jules Second Brusson and associate, 1901, April 14, mine.  
 Jules Second Brusson associates, 1901, Nov. 18, mine.  
 Victor J. Golcher Quirós, 1901, Sept. 26, mine.  
 Francisco Ortiz F. and associates, 1901, Nov. 20, mine.  
 Manuel Aragón Quesada and associates, 1901, Dec. 9, mine.  
 Francisco Vargas Ocampo, 1901, Dec. 15, mine.  
 Elizardo Maceo Rizo and associates, 1902, March 6, mine.  
 Antonio Saldaña and associates, 1902, June 12, mine.  
 William Alejandro Snaby and associates, 1902, June 16, mine.  
 José María Castro Fernández, 1904, Nov. 16, mine.  
 Ismael Alvarado Echandi and associate, 1905, Jan. 5, mine.  
 John Meiggs Keith F. and associate, 1905, Feb. 11, mine.  
 John Meiggs Keith F. and associate, 1905, Feb. 11, mine.  
 Manuel Sandoval Granados and associate, 1905, Feb. 20, mine.  
 Felipe J. Alvarado and associate, 1905, March 3, mine.  
 Francisco M. Fuestes and associate, 1905, March 3, mine.

Salvador Pérez Roque, 1905, Dec. 29, vacant.  
 Calixto Cortés (or order), 1906, Jan. 31, vacant.  
 Carlos Iglesias and associates, 1906, June 13, mine.  
 John Meiggs Keith, 1906, June 30, vacant.  
 Alfonso Iglesias T. and associate, 1907, Aug. 5, mine.  
 Jorge Fonseca Gutiérrez and associate, 1907, Sept. 24, mine.  
 Francisco M. Fuentes, 1908, June 25, mine.  
 Ricardo Jiménez and Agustín Gutiérrez, 1908, July 15, mine.  
 Federico J. Alvarado and associate, 1908, Aug. 5, vacant.  
 Jorge Orozco Casorla, 1908, Aug. 8, vacant.  
 Manuel Sáenz Cordero, 1908, Oct. 7, vacant.  
 Tobías Zúñiga Montúfar and associate, 1908, Nov. 3, vacant.  
 Guillermo Coronado and associate, 1908, Nov. 12, vacant.  
 Fabio Baudrit G., 1908, Nov. 14, vacant.  
 Francisco López García, 1908, Nov. 14, vacant.  
 Arturo Volio Jiménez, 1909, July 31, vacant.  
 Francisco López García, 1909, Nov. 6, vacant.  
 Máximo Fernández Alvarado, 1911, Feb. 6, vacant.  
 Paulina Acuña de Salazar, 1911, May 25, vacant.

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**In like manner, CERTIFIES:**

That Juan Enrique Lyon, of age, married, a native of Baltimore, a farmer and resident of *Talamanca*, in accordance with the Decree of July 22, 1887, denounced six lots of vacant land, jointly with his wife, Gregoria Lyon, and his minor children, Guillermo, Gab and Victoria Eugenia, an area of Two thousand five hundred (2,500) *hectares*, one thousand (1,000) for his part and Five hundred (500) for grant, Five hundred (500) by the common law and Five hundred (500) for each one of the others, the twenty-fourth of August, 1891.

There was adjudicated to Jaime J. Ross & Company, doing business in this place, as successors to the rights of Señor Lyon, Five hundred (500) *hectares* in *Sipurio*, bounded in every direction by vacant lands, the River *Sixola* running through it, in the northern part.

On January twenty-sixth, 1906, there was adjudicated in ownership to the Northern Railway Company of London, represented by its General Manager Don John Meiggs Keith Faulkner, an

area of Five thousand eight hundred and fifty (5,850) *hectares*, Five thousand nine hundred and fifteen (5,915) square metres, within the following boundaries: North, a nautical mile and vacant lands; South, the River *Sixola* and the part of the mile that cannot be denounced of the same; and West, vacant lands; on account of the rights acquired from the Municipality of *Cartago*, estimated for fiscal purposes at the sum of Seventeen thousand, five hundred and fifty-one *colones* and seventy-seven *centavos* and a half (17,551.77½).

On the twelfth of September, 1899, there was adjudicated by virtue of a public sale to Doctor Don Pánfilo Jesús Valverde, wife and child, a parcel of vacant land in "*Schirole*," of *Talamanca*, containing One thousand five hundred and sixty-eight (1,568) *hectares*, Nine thousand four hundred and eight (9,408) square metres, within the following boundaries: on the North, East and West, by vacant lands, now of the Doctor Don Pánfilo J. Valverde those of the last course, and upon the South in part by lands of the same Doctor Valverde and in part by the River *Teliri*, between lands filed upon by Jaime J. Ross & Company and vacant. It was sold for the sum of Three thousand one hundred and thirty-seven *Colones* and eighty-eight *céntimos* (3,137.88).

On the twelfth of September, 1899, by virtue of a public sale duly approved, there was adjudicated to Doctor Don Pánfilo Jesús Valverde and seven of his minor children a parcel of land situated in "*Schirole*," of *Talamanca*, in two lots:—one of Five hundred and fifty-five (555) *hectares* Seven hundred (700) square meters; bounded: North and East by vacant lands, and South by lands filed upon by the same Doctor Valverde, for the sum of One thousand six hundred and sixty-five (1,665) *colones* and twenty-one (21) *céntimos*; and the other of One thousand nine hundred and forty-one (1,941) *hectares* Eight thousand five hundred and four (8,504) square meters, bounded. North in part by vacant lands and in part by property of Doctor Valverde; South by vacant lands, the River *Teliri* in the middle; East, lands of Doctor Valverde, and West by vacant lands; sold at public sale for Three thousand eight hundred and eighty-three *colones*, seventy *centimos* (3,883.70).

They are all at a distance of about eight *kilometres* from *Sipurio*.

## IT CONFORMS:

Given in the city of San José, at two o'clock in the afternoon,  
on the second of June, 1911.

ALEJANDRO JIMÉNEZ CARRILLO.

**Doc. 567** An Extract From the Annual Report of the Departments  
of "Government and Police" of the Republic of Costa  
Rica, for the Year 1912 (page cxxxi).

## TALAMANCA.

The supervision of the Government, even though in a lesser degree, is extended beneficially over that distant portion of our soil.

Under the care of a good official, he has devoted his energy and his intelligence to the work of the development of a race which has been overlooked for many years.

Refraining from harsh measures, unfortunately so often resorted to in the treatment of the aboriginal races, quiet has been successfully maintained, sometimes by a simple warning and at other times by means of mild repressive methods, it being worthy of note that in the course of the year only fourteen sentences have been pronounced, which arose not so much because of wickedness requiring the rigor of the law as from the state of ignorance in which the Indians live. Their weak and submissive disposition contributes very largely toward making the task of the authorities an easy one so far as regards the preservation of public order.

Notwithstanding the efforts already made, the work to be done in the sanitation of those localities is a very great one. The prevailing diseases, if may be said, come from the way in which the natives live. Malarial fevers are very general among all the whites, whilst nearly all the Indians suffer from skin diseases and severe anemia resulting from the unhygienic existence they lead in their miserable stockades quite in common with their domestic animals. Rheumatic affections of the joints consequently find among them many victims.



For the treatment of the more common and well-known disorders, in default of medical service, a drug-shop was installed in the office of the Political Chief, in order to afford free treatment to the Indians.

But perhaps even more important than physical aid is that of instruction and advice. Beginning in the school by teaching the principles of hygiene and personal cleanliness, it must be continued outside of it by bringing home to them those ideas that tend to do away with their old filthy and careless habits. Much is expected especially from the joint collaboration of the Political Chief and the Master of the school. The former has already undertaken the work and with laudable zeal he has sought to root out the superstitious practices of the "*suckias*" or medicine men, who are a source of real danger to the health and life of the inhabitants.

Although somewhat slowly, on account of the lack of sufficient help, and because the work has been done by hand, materials have been accumulated for the construction of a building designed for the use of the Political Chief, an edifice which, as regards its well-built and durable character, is to be superior to any of those that have been erected there heretofore for the account of the Government. The work is being done under the direction of the Political Chief and there has been spent upon it to date, for materials, labor, hardware, etc., for the workmen, the sum of 2,696 *colones* and 30 *céntimos*.

Very little is to be said as to the agriculture of the region, for, excepting two half abandoned farms of private individuals, one prosperous cacao plantation in *Cocoquichiaca* and the banana plantations of *Cuabre*, hardly anything is being done except some meagre cultivation of maize. A decided effort, therefore, is needed on the part of the Government; but as there is a scarcity of labor it is first of all needful to arouse the Indians from their present state of morbid dejection, inspiring and instructing them.

The receipts during the year were: C. 2,007.00, and the disbursements, C. 1,688.78; leaving therefore a balance of C. 318.22.

The general desire for the acquisition of land has made itself felt seriously in *Talamanca*. The entries have extended beyond the old holdings to those of the last and unhappy descendants of

the original owners of the territory, and notwithstanding the protective law of December 21, 1885, No. XXII, which grants an area of fifteen hundred *hectares* to each one of the settlements formed in *Nueva Santa María, Buenos Aires, Río Frío, San Carlos, Sarapiquí, Colorado, Talamánca, Golfo Dulce, Térraba, Boruca* and *Dota*, and provides that within a radius of twenty miles shall not be subject to entry, both in *Talamánca* and in *Buenos Aires* entries have been made to the prejudice of the old settlers. There should be, then, at all events some new legislative disposition, more efficacious and practical than that of 1885, for the remedy of the present injustice.

Doc. 568

## Report of the Governor of Limón.

LIMÓN February 12, 1912.

### DISTRICT OF TALAMANCA.

#### I. *Government.*

Owing to the docility of the Indians who inhabit this locality and who make up the greater portion of the population, there have been no disturbances of the public peace.

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During the year embraced within this report, the receipts were: C. 2,007.00, and the total disbursements C. 1,688.78, for salaries, medicines and other miscellaneous expenses of administration, leaving a balance in the treasury of C. 318.22.

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For the construction of a municipal building or house which is about to be erected, the office of the Political Chief has received aid from the Public Treasury in the amount of C. 500.00, which was expended, together with some small sums produced by a plantation the Government has at Sipurio, of which the respective accounts are submitted, in the cutting and preparations of all the timber that will be required and now entirely ready.

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There were no extraordinary receipts for the sale of privileges relating to vacant lands, since there have not been any concessions granted of this character.

The work upon the building for the *Jefatura* (Office of the Political Chief), which was begun as before stated, could not be carried on, although the squared timbers were all ready, on account of the lack of carpenters to proceed with the framework. No bridge has been constructed in that locality, and the local roads and those of the Government are hardly as clean as they should be, because it is hard to struggle against the indolence of the natives and get them to lend the help due from them.

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The agricultural and commercial development may be said to be in a rudimentary state in this isolated region, mainly due to the lack of suitable labor. The two farms owned by Don Federico Alvarado and Don Luciano Blanco in *Sipurio* were abandoned, leaving in good condition only one distant one that was laid out by Mr. Field in *Cocoquichiaca*, consisting of sixty *hectares* in cacao, and the banana plantations of the United Fruit Company in *Coabre*.

As yet there has been no cultivation whatever, not even on a small scale, of other products, such as rice, sugar cane, coffee, yuca, etc., though the maize grown by the Indians to make their *chicha* (a native beverage) gives a very small yield, because it is not only planted on a very small scale but it is also badly done, the seed-corn being scattered by handfuls.

There is, therefore, no hope of any intensive development of agriculture as long as the population consists of natives, addicted as they are by nature to idleness and sloth.

Commerce also is in a state of infancy in *Talamanca* for the lack of a civilized population.

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There are many local needs, which can not be met for the lack of funds, but the most important for the moment, the timber being all prepared, is to proceed with the framing of the municipal building, for which carpenters should be secured that are so much needed, and these I will duly send or take along with me when I undertake the trip which I must make to *Talamanca* during the present year.

## II. *Police.*

For police service and the maintenance of order and security reliance is had upon two persons, who, together with the deputies in the locality, exercise judicial police administration, without much trouble, since the Indians are of a docile nature and respect the orders given to them, without hesitation or opposition.

But still at times it has been necessary to punish offences committed by them, when they either drink too much *chicha* so as to get intoxicated, or when they *amarran* (make a barricade or dam with stakes) the rivers, so as to provide themselves with fish, contrary to the provisions of law in that respect, thereby producing inundations and washouts in the roads, which are made impassable, apart from the harm done for hygienic reasons by leaving great pools and lagoons of water that poison and infect the air after the river resumes its natural flow, constituting at the same time breeding places for mosquitos and insects that transmit malaria.

For such offences fourteen persons belonging to the family of the King of *Talamanca* have been punished by moderate fines, who thought they had a right to continue their wrong customs.

Of these fines twelve were paid in cash and two of them were worked out.

The Liquor Law has been executed according to its provisions; and as for the natives, as already said, they have been punished whenever they went beyond bounds in drinking their *chicha* with which they very often get intoxicated, and although there is some improvement in this pernicious habit to which they are addicted, yet it is almost impossible to combat it.

The sanitation and hygiene of the region leave much to be desired, billious fevers and malaria being prevalent, which disorders are treated with medicines bought for that purpose, called "*Febricida*" and "*Vino Winter Smith*," that the Indians have been accustomed to take. Cutaneous diseases are also common, resulting from the unhygienic way in which the natives live in their dirty stockades, in company with the pigs and domestic animals they raise and in the midst of their natural filth; and anaemia also prevails, consequent upon the poor food they procure, consisting of plaintains, meat from the mountains when

they can get it, cacao consumed in its bitter state for want of sugar or anything wherewith to sweeten it and their before-mentioned *chicha*.

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As the "*sukias*" (medicine men) exercise a sort of priestly function among the Indians and by means of the superstitious notions which they profess give their attention to the prevailing diseases, they thus cause many deaths, and the Political Chief has prohibited them from engaging in such practices under severe penalties, both for those who perform such rites and also those patients who seek these "*sukias*."

There being no Doctor in that region, there is no one to whom I can refer for the various services in relation to this matter.

It is very necessary to have a Doctor sent to *Talamanca*, who would attend upon the Indians in all their ailments, but as it has not yet been done on account of the difficulty of getting one for so poor and isolated a place, therefore I think it would be possible to secure an apothecary to establish a drug-shop where the people could get medicines and give him leave to treat diseases of easy diagnosis, like those prevailing in the region, and to collect fees for such services, according to a just tariff which should be fixed, so as to prevent abuses.

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The Political Chief has not informed me of any accidents or unfortunate occurrences coming under his jurisdiction; and as regards the felling of trees and the maintenance of the streams, the same may be said as was stated as to this matter in the paragraph relating to the central canton of the province.

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The cattle ranch owned by the Government at *Sipurio* and which is under the charge of the Political Chief has been cleaned out three times during the year and it is now being given a fourth cleaning, and there are in it 37 head of cattle and 6 of horses, beside a magnificent yoke of oxen, that were bought from Señor Federico Alvarado for the sum of C. 255.00, on account of a larger sum due by that individual to the Board of Education of *Talamanca*, which the Government must settle with the latter.

In the manner foregoing I have completed the report I had to render for the fiscal year ended on the 31st of December, 1911, to which I add the following documents: report of the municipal cashier of the City of *Limón*, in which are given tabular statements of the receipts and expenditures of the municipal funds of the province; a report of the Doctors of the towns of *Limón*, *Siquirres* and *Pococi*, and of the Doctor of Marine Sanitation (*Sanidad Marítima*); the report of the Inspector of Hygiene and Principal Police Agent of the line; and furthermore the reports of the Town Doctor (*Médico del Pueblo*) and Municipal Engineer (*Ingeniero Municipal*) of *Limón*, relative to the sanitation of the suburb of *Cieneguita*, which latter documents I consider of great value and that they should be known both by the Government and by the public.

I am, Mr. Minister, with the greatest consideration your faithful and obedient servant and subordinate,

GERARDO LARA,  
Governor.

Doc. 569

## Reports of the Political Chief of Talamanca.

TALAMANCA, SIPURIO, January 14, 1912.

Mr. Minister of Government and Police:

San José.

With the greatest respect and consideration and in the discharge of my duty, permit me to submit to you the report of the administration conducted in this locality during the past year of 1911; and before entering upon the report to say;—that upon taking charge of this office of Political Chief (*Jefatura Política*) on the 21st of April of the year covered by this report, it was my special care to see that the aborigines were well treated and shown proper consideration, tolerating as far as possible certain customs which, although they may not be progressive, are yet so firmly rooted that to take them away would not secure the gradual civilization of these people but would cause them to fly to the mountains and thus lose the little that has been accomplished.

*Public Order.* In all other things, the Indians being naturally docile, they have respected my orders without any hesitation or opposition and without any resort to force; still with some of

them I have been compelled to impose a moderate punishment for some offences committed by them, but which they did not consider such, making them understand when they were punished that they had been at fault and that those offences were punishable by law, so that they will not commit them again. For such offences or faults I have up to this time sentenced fourteen, imposing upon twelve of them a fine that they paid in cash, respectively, without any opposition, and the other two worked it out.

*Salubrity.* This leaves something to be desired. Malarial or bilious fevers, anaemia and cutaneous diseases of an endemic character in this region are the plague of the poor Indians, but still with the recent patent medicines, such as the "*Febricida*" sent by the Supreme Government and the "*Vino Winter Smith*" bought by me, and which the Indians are accustomed to take, malaria no longer exists. Such is not however the case as regards anaemia and the cutaneous diseases, but this is no doubt due to poor food and the lack of sanitary conditions under which these Indians exist, for they live and sleep among the pigs, the dogs and the other animals they raise, and as to food they eat only plantains, mountain meat when they can get it by hunting, cacao which is almost always taken bitter since they do not have or cannot get sugar, and *Chicha* (a native beverage) which they never fail to have for they deem it the supreme thing. However, they are beginning to understand that this habit is a bad one and some of them have given it up, keeping their homes in better sanitary condition.

The "*suckias*" who give medical treatment, killing Indians without mercy by their superstitious practices, I have forbidden under penalty of severe punishment to engage any more in their superstitious profession, and likewise punish those who seek them.

*Development.* The work on the *Jefatura* building (office of the Political Chief) under construction could not be continued for lack of labor and carpenters, since there are none here. The timbers for the entire framework of the building are ready but without carpenters to put them together nothing can be done. The cattle ranch of the National Government has been cleaned out three times and is now being cleaned out again.

The cattle and horses on hand here are as follows:

When I took charge of this *Jefatura* on the 21st of April of the past year I received 35 head of cattle and 10 horses. The former increased by 14 head of calves and heifers; and the second by 3 head, two males and one female. Total: 49 head of cattle and 13 head of horses.

Of these animals I sold, with the authorization of the Minister of the Government, the following:

One old yellowish bull for 90 *Colones*; one roan mare for 60 *Colones*; 3 old cows, one with milk, for 198 *Colones*, one white, another mottled and the other in milk, reddish speckled.

Animals killed by snake-bite and murrain, 7; i. e., 2 heifers killed by snake-bite and 2 killed by murrain; 2 male colts killed by snake-bite and one little female colt by murrain.

Animals butchered: one sorrel calf, barren, which I directed to be killed for meat, since I had no provisions and I could not go as far as *Cocoquichaca* to buy any on account of the bad weather; and one cow killed by the Indians, without being able to find out who did it. One barren cow I recently sent to the Commander of the Customs Guards of *Guarvito*, Don Guillermo Zeledón Castro; and 3 horses which, upon coming to this office of Political Chief on the 21st of April of the past year I directed to be sent to the same Commander, Don Guillermo Zeledón Castro, by order of the Minister.

The number of the cattle now on hand, 37 head.

The number of horses now on hand, 6 head.

The total value of the animals I sold was used up in the work upon the building under construction for the office of the Political Chief, as will be seen in the book of accounts kept by me, with the vouchers.

*Agriculture.* This may be said not to exist here in *Talamanca*, except upon a very limited scale. The only agriculturists who are found here are Don Federico J. Alvarado, Lázaro Hernández and Luciano Blanco, and they have already followed the Indians in abandoning their farms, since they are now overrun with bushes and they take no pains to clear them, perhaps because they cannot get laborers. The only farm that has been begun and has been kept in good condition is the one belonging to Mr. Field, but this one is located away in *Cocoquichaca*. That



farm contains something over 60 *hectares*, planted with *Guayaquil* cacao, but it is still in its infancy. In Cuabre there are banana plantations of the Company and nothing more.

Here there is no planting of rice, beans, sugar cane, coffee or yuca, and it might be said of maize, since what is sown by some Indians is so very meagre and being scattered by handful it is wasted.

*Roads.* These are comparatively clear, both the local ones and those of the Supreme Government, requiring no little labor in order to have the Indians clean them.

*Needs.* These are, such as the lack of a Doctor and the installation of a drug-shop, where all kinds of medicines might be obtained; but as regards a Doctor one would not come except for an excessive salary, and in order to visit the sick he would have to travel leagues and leagues over the mountains and sleep out in the dirty shacks where the Indians sleep.

It would be a very good thing if some one who was a good apothecary would come and set up a drug-shop in this region for his own account, with a salary from the Supreme Government, allowing him the privilege of treating certain ailments of easy diagnosis, such as disorders that are prevalent here, since the medicines provided by the Government are ignorantly and blindly administered; and if any one goes to look for castor oil, almond oil, olive oil or that used for food, alcohol, an alkali, magnesia, fruit salts, ipecac, camphor, mustard, Carlsbad or San Carlos salts, they cannot be had. Indeed, what poor Indians!

Having thus submitted this my report, I subscribe myself, Mr. Minister, your faithful and obedient servant,

*The Political Chief,*

RAMÓN FIGUEROA.

Jefatura Política and Comandancia of *Talamanca*.

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SIPURIO, January 14, 1912.

Señor Minister of Government and Police:

San José.

As a supplement to the report which I made for the year 1911, I send this sheet.

As to the cattle mentioned in my report, there are 2 head more; there being a yoke of oxen bought for the Supreme Gov-

ernment account from Señor Don Federico José Alvarado, for the sum of 225 *Colones*, with their yoke, which amount was credited to Señor Alvarado upon the larger sum due by him to the Board of Education of *Talamanca*, so that the Supreme Government owes the said board the sum of C. 255, the value of the oxen, which are certainly worth more and are very useful in this region.

This purchase was made on the 27th of June of the past year.

With the greatest consideration, I am, Mr. Minister, your faithful and obedient servant,

*The Political Chief,*

RAMÓN FIGUEROA.

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